

Board Developed Courses for the Higher School Certificate

ACE 6001

Last Updated: 29 March 2019

Board Developed Courses are courses developed by NESA.

A **syllabus** is available for each of these courses. Schools must use the current syllabus for any Board Developed Preliminary (Year 11) or HSC (Year 12) course they teach.

[View current syllabuses.](#)

Higher School Certificate Board Developed Courses

ACE 6002

Last Updated: 30 July 2019

Subjects	Courses	Extension Courses
Aboriginal Studies	Aboriginal Studies	
Agriculture	Agriculture	
Ancient History	Ancient History	HSC History Extension
Biology	Biology	HSC Science Extension
Business Studies	Business Studies	
Chemistry	Chemistry	HSC Science Extension
Community and Family Studies	Community and Family Studies	
Dance	Dance	
Design and Technology	Design and Technology	
Drama	Drama	
Earth and Environmental Science	Earth and Environmental Science	HSC Science Extension
Economics	Economics	
Engineering Studies	Engineering Studies	
English	English Standard	
	English Advanced	Preliminary English Extension
		HSC English Extension 1 HSC English Extension 2
	English EAL/D	
	English Studies	
Food Technology	Food Technology	
Geography	Geography	
Industrial Technology	Industrial Technology	
Information Processes and Technology	Information Processes and Technology	
Investigating Science	Investigating Science	HSC Science Extension
Legal Studies	Legal Studies	
Mathematics	Mathematics Standard	
	Mathematics Standard 1	
	Mathematics Standard 2	
	Mathematics Advanced	Year 11 Mathematics Extension

Subjects	Courses	Extension Courses
		HSC Mathematics Extension 1 ¹
		HSC Mathematics Extension 2 ¹
Modern History	Modern History	HSC History Extension
Music	Music 1	
	Music 2	HSC Music Extension
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education	
Physics	Physics	HSC Science Extension
Society and Culture	Society and Culture	
Software Design and Development	Software Design and Development	
Studies of Religion	Studies of Religion I (1 Unit) Studies of Religion II (2 Unit)	
Textiles and Design	Textiles and Design	
Visual Arts	Visual Arts	

Languages

Subjects	Courses	Extension Courses
Arabic	Arabic Beginners	
	Arabic Continuers	HSC Arabic Extension
Armenian	Armenian Continuers	
Chinese	Chinese Beginners	
	Chinese Continuers	HSC Chinese Extension
	Chinese in Context	
	Chinese and Literature	
Classical Greek	Classical Greek Continuers	HSC Classical Greek Extension
Classical Hebrew	Classical Hebrew Continuers	HSC Classical Hebrew Extension
Croatian	Croatian Continuers	
Dutch	Dutch Continuers	
Filipino	Filipino Continuers	
French	French Beginners	
	French Continuers	HSC French Extension
German	German Beginners	
	German Continuers	HSC German Extension
Hindi	Hindi Continuers	

Subjects	Courses	Extension Courses
Hungarian	Hungarian Continuers	
Indonesian	Indonesian Beginners	
	Indonesian Continuers	HSC Indonesian Extension
	Indonesian in Context	
	Indonesian and Literature	
Italian	Italian Beginners	
	Italian Continuers	HSC Italian Extension
Japanese	Japanese Beginners	
	Japanese Continuers	HSC Japanese Extension
	Japanese in Context	
	Japanese and Literature	
Khmer	Khmer Continuers	
Korean	Korean Beginners	
	Korean Continuers	
	Korean in Context	
	Korean and Literature	
Latin	Latin Continuers	HSC Latin Extension
Macedonian	Macedonian Continuers	
Malay	Malay Background Speakers	
Maltese	Maltese Continuers	
Modern Greek	Modern Greek Beginners	
	Modern Greek Continuers	HSC Modern Greek Extension
Modern Hebrew	Modern Hebrew Continuers	
Persian	Persian Continuers	
Polish	Polish Continuers	
Portuguese	Portuguese Continuers	
Punjabi	Punjabi Continuers	
Russian	Russian Continuers	
Serbian	Serbian Continuers	
Spanish	Spanish Beginners	
	Spanish Continuers	HSC Spanish Extension
Swedish	Swedish Continuers	
Tamil	Tamil Continuers	
Turkish	Turkish Continuers	
Vietnamese	Vietnamese Continuers	

VET Industry Curriculum Frameworks²

Subjects	Courses	Specialisation Studies/Extension Courses
Automotive	Automotive (120 hours)	Automotive Specialisation Study (60 or 120 hours)
	Automotive (240 hours)	
Business Services	Business Services (120 hours)	Business Services Specialisation Study (60 hours)
	Business Services (240 hours)	Business Services Extension (120 hours)
Construction	Construction (120 hours)	Construction Specialisation Study (60 or 120 or 180 or 240 hours)
	Construction (240 hours)	Construction School-based Apprenticeship Specialisation Study (60 or 120 or 180 or 240 hours)
	Construction School-based Apprenticeship (24 hours)	
Electrotechnology	Electrotechnology (120 hours)	Electrotechnology Specialisation Study (60 or 120 hours)
	Electrotechnology (240 hours)	
Entertainment Industry	Entertainment Industry (120 hours)	Entertainment Industry Specialisation Study (60 or 120 hours)
	Entertainment Industry (240 hours)	
Financial Services	Financial Services (120 hours)	Financial Services Specialisation Study (60 hours)
	Financial Services (240 hours)	
Hospitality	Hospitality (120 hours)	Hospitality Specialisation Study (60 or 120 or 180 or 240 hours)
	Hospitality (240 hours)	
Human Services	Human Services (240 hours)	Human Services Specialisation Study (60 hours)
	Human Services (360 hours)	
Information and Digital Technology	Information and Digital Technology (120 hours)	Information and Digital Technology Specialisation Study (60 or 120 or 180 or 240 hours)
	Information and Digital Technology (240 hours)	
Metal and Engineering	Metal and Engineering (120 hours)	Metal and Engineering Specialisation Study (60 or 120 hours)
	Metal and Engineering (240 hours)	Metal and Engineering School-based Apprenticeship Specialisation Study (60 or 120 hours)
	Metal and Engineering School-based Apprenticeship (240 hours)	

Subjects	Courses	Specialisation Studies/Extension Courses
Primary Industries	Primary Industries (120 hours)	Primary Industries Specialisation Study (60 or 120 or 180 hours)
	Primary Industries (240 hours)	Primary Industries Extension (60 or 120 hours)
Retail Services	Retail Services (120 hours)	Community Pharmacy Specialisation Study (120 hours)
	Retail Services (240 hours)	Wholesale Specialisation Study (60 hours)
Tourism, Travel and Events	Tourism, Travel and Events (120 hours)	
	Tourism, Travel and Events (240 hours)	

Life Skills

Subjects	Courses
Community and Family Studies	Community and Family Studies Life Skills
Creative Arts ³	Creative Arts Life Skills
	Dance Life Skills
	Drama Life Skills
	Music Life Skills
	Visual Arts Life Skills
English	English Life Skills
Human Society and Its Environment ⁴	Human Society and Its Environment Life Skills
	Ancient History Life Skills
	Aboriginal Studies Life Skills
	Business and Economics Life Skills
	Citizenship and Legal Studies Life Skills
	Geography Life Skills
	Modern History Life Skills
	Society and Culture Life Skills
	Studies of Religion I Life Skills
	Studies of Religion II Life Skills
Mathematics	Mathematics Life Skills
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Life Skills
Science	Chemical World Science Life Skills
	Earth and Space Science Life Skills
	Investigating Science Life Skills
	Living World Science Life Skills
	Physical World Science Life Skills
Technology ⁵	Technology Life Skills
	Agriculture Life Skills
	Design and Technology Life Skills
	Food Technology Life Skills
	Industrial Technology Life Skills
	Information Processes and Technology Life Skills
Textiles and Design Life Skills	
Work and the Community	Work and the Community Life Skills

Notes:

1. When a student is entered for Mathematics Extension 2, both Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2 are

counted as 2-unit courses.

2. Courses in the VET Industry Curriculum Frameworks can be studied as Preliminary and/or HSC courses. Students studying a 240-hour VET Industry Curriculum Framework course may also enter for an HSC examination in the course.
3. Each course derived from the Stage 6 Creative Arts Life Skills syllabus is considered to be a separate course for the purpose of a student's pattern of study. The Creative Arts Life Skills course draws from outcomes and content from two or more of the following subjects: Dance Life Skills, Drama Life Skills, Music Life Skills or Visual Arts Life Skills. The Creative Arts Life Skills course must not duplicate any content or outcomes of courses that are also undertaken separately.
4. Each course derived from the Stage 6 Human Society and Its Environment Life Skills syllabus is considered to be a separate course for the purpose of a student's pattern of study. The Human Society and Its Environment Life Skills course draws from outcomes and content from two or more of the following courses: Aboriginal Studies Life Skills, Ancient History Life Skills, Business and Economics Life Skills, Citizenship and Legal Studies Life Skills, Geography Life Skills, Modern History Life Skills, Society and Culture Life Skills, Studies of Religion I Life Skills or Studies of Religion II Life Skills. The Human Society and Its Environment Life Skills course must not duplicate any content or outcomes of courses that are also undertaken separately.
5. Each course derived from the Technology Life Skills syllabus is considered to be a separate course for the purpose of a student's pattern of study. The Technology Life Skills course draws from outcomes and content from two or more of the following subjects: Agriculture Life Skills, Design and Technology Life Skills, Food Technology Life Skills, Industrial Technology Life Skills, Information Processes and Technology Life Skills, and Textiles and Design Life Skills. The Technology Life Skills course must not duplicate any content or outcomes of courses that are also undertaken separately.

Board Developed and Content Endorsed VET courses for the Higher School Certificate – minimum length and delivery

ACE 6003

Last Updated: 3 September 2021

The minimum length of ‘standalone’ Board Developed and Content Endorsed VET Courses is **120 hours**.

Students who complete only 60 hours of a 120-hour **VET Framework course** or of a **VET Content Endorsed Course** will not be accredited for one ‘standalone’ unit within their pattern(s) of study for Higher School Certificate eligibility. Such students will, however, receive recognition within the Australian Qualifications Framework for units of competency achieved.

Schools delivering **120-hour VET Framework courses** or **Content Endorsed VET Courses** over two years must ensure that students are fully aware of these credentialling implications.

Board Developed Courses and Board Endorsed VET Courses may be delivered by schools, TAFE and private RTOs.

For students undertaking Real Estate licensing units in conjunction with the Business Services Curriculum Framework 240-hour course, the associated VET Board Endorsed Course is 60 indicative hours.

Requirements for provision of VET courses for the Higher School Certificate – delivery by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) other than schools or TAFE

ACE 6015

Last Updated: 29 March 2019

The following guidelines are intended to provide guidance to schools and training organisations regarding provision of HSC VET courses by Registered Training Organisations other than schools or TAFE. They should form the basis of formal contractual arrangements between schools and Registered Training Organisations.

Guidelines

1. These guidelines apply to **Registered Training Organisations** contracted by government or non-government schools to deliver accredited VET courses as part of the NSW Higher School Certificate. Schools delivering VET courses, and TAFE NSW institutes and colleges delivering courses for the Higher School Certificate are not included in this definition.
2. *The Education Act 1990* precludes any institution other than a government school, registered and accredited non-government school or TAFE college from offering the Higher School Certificate. **Registered Training Organisations** may, however, on behalf of schools, deliver VET courses or parts of courses that contribute to the Higher School Certificate. Courses/course components delivered by RTOs for the Higher School Certificate must meet the requirements of NESAs.
3. **NESA** is required either to develop or to endorse all courses for the Higher School Certificate. In addition, VET courses for the Higher School Certificate must either be based on endorsed Training Packages or nationally accredited VET courses. **RTOs** can only enter into arrangements to deliver a VET course for the Higher School Certificate where the course has been developed or endorsed by NESAs for Higher School Certificate purposes.
4. All VET Higher School Certificate courses must be delivered by an RTO. The **RTO** must have current registration and it must be within the RTO's scope of registration to deliver the particular course or course component. **Schools** should confirm the RTO's registration on the National Training Register.
5. **The school** retains overall responsibility for monitoring course delivery and for duty of care while students are participating in courses conducted by an RTO. **The school** is also responsible for providing information to NESAs for assessing, reporting and credentialling of the course.

Stage 6 Life Skills courses

ACE 7001

Last Updated: 18 December 2017

Stage 6 Life Skills courses provide options for students with disability who are unable to access regular course outcomes, particularly students with an intellectual disability

The Stage 6 Life Skills courses can be undertaken in combination with other Board Developed and/or Board Endorsed Courses to meet the requirements for the award of the Higher School Certificate.

Stage 6 Life Skills courses have Board Developed status. Each Stage 6 Life Skills course comprises a 2-unit 120-hour Preliminary course and a 2-unit 120-hour HSC course, with the exception of Studies of Religion I Life Skills, which is a 1-unit course (60 hours).

Schools may wish to design a Life Skills course as a School Developed Board Endorsed Course to meet the local needs of their students in areas where there is no Board Developed syllabus.

Exclusions

As with the study of all Board Developed Courses, exclusions apply to the study of Life Skills courses such that students may not study more than one 240-hour course in the same subject. For example, a student cannot include both English (Standard) and English Life Skills in the pattern of study for the award of the Higher School Certificate.