



VCE

2021 Handbook

Contents

Victorian Certificate of Education.....	3
To be awarded the VCE.....	3
VCE in Year 11	3
VCE in Year 12	3
How is VCE Assessed?	3
Study Scores and the ATAR.....	4

Victorian Certificate of Education

The VCE is typically a two year program of study undertaken during the final two years of secondary education (Years 11 & 12). It is a recognised qualification for entry to further studies at University or TAFE or for movement into the workforce. The VCE is administered through the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA).

To be awarded the VCE

To satisfactorily complete the VCE, a student must have a satisfactory result (S) for a minimum of 16 units. At a minimum this must include:

- at least three units from the English group, two of which must be a Unit 3–4 sequence
- an additional three Unit 3–4 sequences of studies.
-

VCE in Year 11

Students usually complete 12 Units (six in each semester) plus one Religious Education Unit (Year Long). Students should select carefully from the Religious Education group as not all subjects offered count towards the VCE. All students are required to complete a Unit 1 & 2 from the English group. It is recommended that Year 11 students also complete a Unit 1 & 2 in Mathematics, to enhance their suitability for further education and/or employment. The remaining Units of the Year 11 program can be selected from any of the available VCE or VET Units.

VCE in Year 12

Students usually complete 10 units (five in each semester) plus one Religious Education Unit (Year Long). Students are expected to remain in the same Religious Education subject where possible. All Year 12 students are required to complete a Unit 3 & 4 from the English studies offered unless this requirement has been met as an enhancement study at the Year 11 level.

How is VCE Assessed?

To successfully complete a VCE Unit, a student must demonstrate achievement of the set of outcomes for the Unit as specified by the study design and communicated by the subject teacher. The decision regarding satisfactory completion of outcomes is based on the teacher's assessment of the student's performance in various tasks designated for the unit.

A student receives an 'S' when the school determines that all outcomes are achieved satisfactorily. In general, this requires a student to:

- Produce work that demonstrates the achievement of the outcomes
- Submit work on time
- Submit work that is clearly his/her own
- Observe the VCAA and school rules
- Attend at least 90% of classes for each unit

The decision to award an 'S' for a Unit is distinct from assessment resulting in scores or grades.

In Unit 1 & 2 studies, student achievement and satisfactory completion of units is a school decision.

In Unit 3 & 4 studies, satisfactory completion of units is a school decision. The VCAA awards scores based on SACs and external exams.

Study Scores and the ATAR

In Unit 3 & 4 students are awarded a study score for each unit 3 & 4 sequence completed. This score is based on school assessed coursework and tasks, as well as the external examination. A study score is a measure of a student's performance in a unit compared to all Victorian students completing that unit.

For students interested in tertiary study, the ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) is calculated by VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) based on study scores.

The ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) is a ranking calculated from study scores for:

- Units 3 & 4 sequence from the English group, plus
- The best three (3) Unit 3 & 4 sequences, plus
- 10% of the next two (2) best Unit 3 & 4 sequences
- VCE/VET Unit 3 and 4 sequences can be included

For further information please visit [VTAC](#).