

Variations to the VCE Program

Request for a Variation in VCE Program

Trinity Grammar School requires all students to participate in the VCE in a manner that will maximise their academic and personal potential. For this reason we have an operation model based on our long and successful standards for excellence.

All Trinity VCE students are expected to complete 6 subjects (12 units) during their Year 11. This is in addition to any units studied during Year 10 or outside of school. During their Year 12 each student is expected to study 5 subjects, all of which will be Unit 3 and 4 sequences.

Our experience is that this type of program typically enables students to maximise their performance.

However, individual students vary, and their personal and career needs may also vary. If you wish to make a variation from the Trinity Grammar School standard program you can apply through the following process:

1. Discuss your request with the Head of VCE
2. Complete a Variation to the VCE Program

You request will be reviewed by the VCE Committee and you will be notified of the outcome.



Attempting more than one Units 3 and 4 subject in Year 11

Students should only apply to do one Units 3 and 4 subject in Year 11. Only in exceptional circumstances may a student apply to do two Units 3 and 4 in Year 11.

Only six Units 3 and 4 studies can contribute to a student's ATAR at the end of Year 12. Occasionally, students and parents think it would be a good idea to complete as many Units 3 and 4 as possible in Year 11 to maximise the ATAR score. In tracking students, Trinity has found that there is no significant statistical benefit in completing two or more Units 3 and 4 in Year 11 and that by taking on a huge workload at this level, students could disadvantage themselves in terms of skill development, wellbeing and attainment.

At Trinity, if a student studies two Unit 3 and 4 subjects in Year 11, it is with the understanding that he will continue with five Unit 3 and 4 studies during his Year 12.

Repeating VCE Units

There are no restrictions on students repeating units of study, but students may obtain credit once only for each unit. Students who repeat a unit are required to repeat the full unit, including outcomes specified for the unit as accredited in the year of repetition.

There is a logic in repeating a Units 3 and 4 subject if the subject is a prerequisite and it hasn't been met. For example, where a prerequisite study score of 25 in Mathematical Methods is required for a desired University course and a student achieves a study score of 24 or lower. In tracking students over several years, however, the Trinity experience is that students perform at the same or lower level compared to the original attempt.

Literature Units 3 and 4 - Meeting the Compulsory English Requirement

VCAA rules allow students to replace the compulsory English requirement at Units 1-4 with Literature. Our experience, however, shows that because most boys have been studying the mainstream English subject from Year 7, it makes sense for them continue to complete it at VCE in order to maximise their opportunities for success. We therefore require all students to select English Units 1-4 in VCE and study Literature as an additional English option. Students in an exceptional situation may apply for permission to vary this selection.



External and Additional Studies

Additional Studies

It is possible for students to seek to undertake additional VCE studies. These may be undertaken within the Trinity VCE program or in addition to it.

Completing an additional study is deemed by the school to be suitable only for those students with a proven record of high academic achievement, and who can demonstrate rigorous study habits. Any student wishing to additional study must make an application to the VCE Committee.

In the event an issue arises regarding the ongoing workload of a student completing an additional study, it is the recommendation of the school that the student cease that study.

Concurrent enrolment at a Tertiary provider

The school recognises that for some students, the opportunity to undertake tertiary studies during their VCE will broaden their study program and allow them to pursue particular areas of academic interest to a higher level than a traditional curriculum would allow and provide them with valuable experiences of learning in a tertiary environment.

Universities prescribe a minimum level of achievement in pre-requisite studies that must be attained in Unit 3 and 4 VCE subjects or is likely to be attained through concurrent study. Consequently, an enhancement study is deemed by the school to be suitable only for high achieving students.

The undertaking of a tertiary study does not in itself qualify a student for consideration for a reduction to the standard Trinity VCE Program. That is to say, a student may be required to complete the study in addition to a full VCE study load at school.

Any student wishing to undertake tertiary studies must make an application to the VCE Committee.