



MELBOURNE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
AN ANGLICAN SCHOOL

VCE Information Evening 2008



Program for the evening

- Introduction - Peter Tooke, Deputy Headmaster and Head of Senior School
- ‘Break-out Sessions’ – 3 x 30 minute discussion groups:
 1. VCE – Processes & Pitfalls: Daniel McCoppin, VCE Coordinator
 2. ENTER: Frank Thompson, Director of Careers Development
 3. Keeping the balance: Elaine Hosie, Director of Education Services
- Supper in the Foyer with Chris Bradtke, Director of Teaching and Learning

VCE - Victorian Certificate of Education

- The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) is the body responsible for delivery and assessment of the VCE.
- Melbourne Grammar School is a recognised provider of the VCE and our programs in Years 11 and 12 are designed to maximise the breadth and depth of studies available in the VCE.
- Each VCE Study (subject) is broken down into semester length Units – Typically Units 1/2 in Yr 11 and ¾ in Yr 12. Most students at MGS undertake a ¾ study in year 11.

Completion Requirements

Satisfactory completion of 16 semester length units including:

- 3 units of English studies (English or English Literature or ESL)
- 3 sequences of units 3 and 4 studies other than English
- Up to two of the 3 sequences other than English can be approved VET Unit 3 and 4 sequences.
- By the end of 2008 most MGS students will have undertaken 24 units.
- In 2008 Year 11 students have the option of taking 6 subjects. Approximately 40% have taken this option and by the end of 2009 will have completed 22 units.

NB: The decision about satisfactory completion of a unit is distinct from the assessment of levels of performance and tertiary entrance requirements.

Present structure of the VCE

- The awarding of a satisfactory completion for each study is determined by the student demonstrating that they achieved the prescribed outcomes for each unit.
- The level of understanding demonstrated in each unit $\frac{3}{4}$ sequence is determined by a combination of
 - School Assessed Coursework or Tasks (SACs or SATs)
 - External Examinations

Satisfactory Completion

- is a school based decision that is reported to the VCAA as an S or N
- based on demonstration of achievement of each outcome for the Unit
- key knowledge and key skills associated with each outcome assist teachers in making the judgement
- An N result means that no score will be generated for that study.

Students may be granted *Satisfactory Completion* if:

- the work is of the required standard
- school deadlines (including extension or special provisions) have been met
- the work can be authenticated
- rules have not been breached including school attendance rules

Timelines and Deadlines

- The VCAA sets a framework of dates for reporting of school results (S and N and coursework tasks). Schools are delegated the responsibility for setting completion dates for coursework assessments and school-assessed tasks. Many of these are published in the MGS VCE academic calendar.

VCE School-Assessed Coursework

Unit Information form

Task Information form

Assessment

- School Assessment is a part of regular classroom instruction
- Full attendance required at MGS
- External Assessment has a strong weighting (from 33% to 66%)

Coursework Assessment

- small tests, essays or presentations
- is frequent (between 1 to 4 per term in each study)
- is part of regular classroom instruction
- is administered under consistent conditions across the student cohort doing that study

Coursework Assessment

VCE Australian History

Unit 3 Outcome 2

Assessment tasks	Marks allocated
An essay	25
and	
•a short-answer test	
or	
•analysis of visual material	
or	
•analysis of written documents	25
or	
•a short biographical study	

Feedback

- Grades will be provided to students for coursework tasks
- Scores for coursework assessment may change as a result of Statistical Moderation by the VCAA

Statistical Moderation

- Establish a rank order of students in the MGS study cohort
- Comparability from class to class
- Rank order adjusted by VCAA to mirror the level and spread of the cohort's performance on a common external examination (Exam/s and GAT)
- Comparability from school to school

General Achievement Test (G A T)

The VCAA will use GAT scores in the process of:

- reviewing school assessments in School-assessed tasks
- requesting authentication checks by schools for particular students' School-assessed Tasks
- Checking the accuracy of student scores in examinations
- Enhancing the statistical moderation in School-assessed Coursework
- Calculating Derived Examination Scores where this Special provision has been approved.

School-Assessed Tasks (SATs)

Practical development of a folio or product

- In 2008 will apply for:
 - VCE Art
 - VCE Studio Arts
 - VCE Visual Communication and Design
 - VCE Design and Technology

Authentication

- Teachers must ensure that the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment authority's authentication requirements are met
- If there is any doubt about the authentication of a student's piece of work the student may be asked to attend a panel meeting to explain their work

Special Situations

VCAA Special Provisions:

- On going difficulties that are documented in the Learning Strategies & Counselling department
- special examination arrangements
- derived exam score
- school-level strategies for SACs
- English as a Second Language
- Rescheduling of a SAC

VTAC Special Entry Access Schemes (SEAS):

- chronic circumstances

Publications

Internal

- VCE Curriculum Handbook 2008
- VCE Curriculum Handbook Supplement 2008
- VCE Semester 1 and 2 Planners
- VCE School-Assessed Coursework forms
- School Diary

Publications

External

- VCE Administrative Handbook
- VCE Study Designs
- VCE Bulletins and Supplements
- Statistical Moderation of VCE Coursework booklet
- Assessment Guides for Revised VCE Studies
- VCE assessment advice
- Professional development material (VCAA)
- VCAA web site: <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au>
- Assessment criteria for 2008 examinations
- “The Age” Annual VCE Supplement

Curriculum Office

- **Chris Bradtke**
 - Director of Teaching and Learning
- **Christine Ford**
 - Head of Senior School Curriculum Administration
- **Daniel McCoppin**
 - Senior School Curriculum Coordinator (including VCE coordination)
- **Kerry Ryan**
 - Secretary to the Curriculum Office



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MGS - News Dates Events

www.mgs.vic.edu.au/news/mgs_news.php



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