

VCE Vocational Major 2023

What is the VCE Vocational Major (VM)?

The VCE Vocational Major is a new vocational and applied learning program that sits within the VCE. It is four new subjects that have been added to the VCE that will make up the core of your program. It takes what is called an 'Applied Learning approach'. Applied learning involves students engaging in relevant and authentic learning experiences. It is a method of learning where theoretical information comes to life for students in a real world context that relates directly to their own future, is within their own control and is within an environment where they feel safe and respected. Students' knowledge grows and expands as they take action to learn, reflect on that action and plan how to do it better next time.

The VCE Vocational Major is the replacement for the Intermediate and Senior VCAL. It is a two year program over Year 11 and 12. Only students who enrol in the full program can choose these new VCE VM studies.

In 2023, the VCE Vocational Major will begin for Year 11 students and Senior VCAL will continue in its current form. In 2024, the VCE Vocational Major will be delivered at both year levels.

The VCE Vocational Major will prepare students to move successfully into apprenticeships, traineeships, further education and training, university through alternative entry programs or directly into the workforce. The four main studies are assessed at a school level through authentic assessment activities. There are no external examinations for the VCE VM studies and therefore students do not receive a study score, and are not eligible to receive an ATAR.

Students who have completed the satisfactory completion requirements of the VCE VM will receive a Victorian Certificate of Education with the words Vocational Major on it to recognise their achievements.

What do I have to do to get my VCE VM?

Students must successfully finish at least 16 units, including:

- 3 VCE VM Literacy or VCE English units (including a Unit 3–4 sequence)
- 3 other Unit 3-4 sequences
- 2 VCE VM Numeracy or VCE Mathematics units
- 2 VCE VM Work Related Skills units
- 2 VCE VM Personal Development Skills units, and
- 2 VET credits at Certificate II level or above (180 hours)

Most students will undertake between 16-20 units over the two years. You can also do other VCE subjects, and structured workplace learning.

VCE VM Literacy

Overview:

Literacy enables students to understand the different ways in which knowledge and opinion are represented and developed in daily life in the 21st Century. The development of literacy Year 11 VCE VM is based upon applied learning principles, making strong connections between students' lives and their learning. By engaging with a wide range of content drawn from a range of local and global cultures, forms and genres, including First Nations Peoples' knowledge and voices, students learn how information can be shown through print, visual, oral, digital and multimodal representations.

Topics covered in Units 1&2

UNIT 1: Literacy for Personal Use & Understanding and Creating Digital Texts

Students will read texts that serve a variety of purposes, from everyday content written to convey information, to texts written for specific workplaces or educational settings. Students will employ a variety of strategies to develop their understanding of the purpose and key ideas within the written and spoken language. They will read, view and interact with different digital texts and participate in learning activities to develop their capacity to explore and discuss their impact.

UNIT 2: Understanding Issues and Voices & Responding to Opinions

Students will read, view and listen to a range of texts and content that demonstrate diverse opinions on a range of local and global issues, and which may impact on their community or be of particular concern to a vocational or workplace group. They consider their own perspectives on issues and develop reasoned and logical responses to these discussions in a respectful and thoughtful manner.

Appeals to students who:

- Are hands-on learners
- Enjoy a practical approach to learning
- Are looking to develop their reading and writing skills
- Prefer work-related and real-world contexts

Typical tasks:

- Reflective Journals
- Research Tasks and Case Studies
- Different types of written pieces
- Discussion and Debate
- Posters, Brochures and Digital Presentations
- Videos, podcasts or oral presentations
- Comparison of different opinions

If you have liked/enjoyed these studies/electives in the past:

- English
- Literature
- Media

Typically leads to:

- VCE Vocational Major Certificate
- TAFE courses
- Trades and employment opportunities

VCE VM Numeracy

Overview:

VCE VM Numeracy empowers students to use mathematics to make sense of the world and apply mathematics in a context for a social purpose. Numeracy gives meaning to mathematics, where mathematics is the tool (knowledge and skills) to be applied efficiently and critically. Numeracy involves the use and application of a range of mathematical skills and knowledge which arise in a range of different contexts and situations. The contexts are the starting point and the focus, and are framed in terms of personal, financial, civic, health, recreational and vocational classifications. These numeracies are developed using a problem-solving cycle with four components: formulating; acting on and using mathematics; evaluating and reflecting; and communicating and reporting.

Topics covered in Units 1&2

These units provide students with the fundamental mathematical knowledge, skills, understandings and dispositions to solve problems in real contexts for a range of workplace, personal, further learning and community settings relevant to contemporary society.

UNIT 1: Number, Shape, Quantity and Measures, Relationships

Students will develop their numeracy practices to make sense of their personal, public and vocational lives. They will develop mathematical skills with consideration of their local, community, national and global environments and contexts, and an awareness and use of appropriate technologies.

UNIT 2: Dimensions and Direction, Data, uncertainty, Systematics

In Unit 2 students will extend their numeracy practices to make sense of their personal, public and vocational lives. They will develop mathematical skills with consideration of their local, community, national and global environments and contexts, and identification and appropriate selection and use of relevant technologies.

Appeals to students who:

- Are hands-on learners
- Enjoy a practical approach to learning
- Are looking to develop their numeracy skills
- Prefer work-related and real-world contexts

Typical tasks:

- Investigations and projects
- Budgets
- Multimedia presentations, posters, reports
- Portfolio of resources

If you have liked/enjoyed these studies/electives in the past:

- Maths
- Science

Typically leads to:

- VCE Vocational Major Certificate
- TAFE courses
- Trades and Employment opportunities

VCE VM Work Related Skills

Overview:

VCE VM Work Related Skills allows students to understand and apply concepts and terminology related to the workplace and further studies to understand the complex and rapidly changing world of work and workplace environments. It helps students understand and develop their skills, knowledge, capabilities and attributes as they relate to further education and employment, to develop effective communication skills to enable self-reflection and self-promotion and to practically apply their skills and knowledge. This subject requires students to think about and investigate potential employment pathways, to develop a career action plan, to seek appropriate advice and feedback on planned career and further study objectives.

Topics covered in Units 1&2

UNIT 1: Careers and Learning for the Future

Students will evaluate information relating to employment. They will consider the reliability and credibility of information sources and the scope of labour market information available, including skills shortages and industry growth areas, emerging industries and current and future trends. Students will apply strategies to improve planning and decision-making related to gaining employment.

UNIT 2: Workplace Skills and Capabilities

Students will collect evidence and artefacts relating to their personal skills and capabilities and promote them through resumes, cover letters and interview preparation. They will distinguish between transferable skills that are valued across industries and specialist and technical work skills required for specific industries. Students will apply strategies to promote their unique skills and capabilities through writing job applications and participating in mock interviews.

Appeals to students who:

- Are hands-on learners
- Enjoy a practical approach to learning
- Are looking to develop their employability skills
- Prefer work-related and real-world contexts
- Want to understand the workforce better

Typical tasks:

- Research Tasks and Case Studies
- Posters, Brochures and Digital Presentations
- Videos, podcasts or oral presentations
- Career action plan, resume and cover letter
- Record of meeting with careers advisor and/or job interviews
- Mock interviews

If you have liked/enjoyed these studies/electives in the past:

- Business Management
- Work Experience

Typically leads to:

- VCE Vocational Major Certificate
- TAFE courses
- Trades and employment opportunities

VCE VM Personal Development Skills

Overview:

The VCE VM Personal Development Skills study focuses on helping students develop personal identity and individual pathways to optimal health and wellbeing. It begins with concepts of personal identity and the range of factors that contribute to an individual's perception of self. Students will investigate health in their community and play an active, participatory role in designing and implementing activities to improve community health and wellbeing. Students understand different perspectives on issues affecting their community, they will also plan, implement and evaluate an active response to community need.

Topics covered in Units 1&2

UNIT 1: Healthy Individuals

Students will investigate local health-promoting organisations and resources and play an active, participatory role in designing and implementing activities or mechanisms to improve health and wellbeing. Students will examine relationships between technologies and health and wellbeing, and develop tools for analysing the reliability, validity and accuracy of information and the efficacy of health messages.

UNIT 2: Connecting to Community

Students will seek to understand different perspectives on issues affecting a community. They will reflect on relationships between community issues, social cohesion, and health and wellbeing, and the importance of clear information and communication. Students will investigate how communities may be called upon to support individual members and identify effective strategies for creating positive community change. They will plan, implement and evaluate an active response to an individual's need for community support.

Appeals to students who:

- Are hands-on learners
- Enjoy a practical approach to learning
- Are looking to develop their understanding of themselves and their community
- Prefer work-related and real-world contexts
- Want to contribute to community
- Enjoy working in a team

Typical tasks:

- Reflective Journals
- Written reports
- Research Tasks and Case Studies
- Posters, Brochures and Digital Presentations
- Videos, podcasts or oral presentations
- Record of visits to community-based programs or organisations
- Community engagement plan

If you have liked/enjoyed these studies/electives in the past:

- Health and Human Development
- Social Studies

Typically leads to:

- VCE Vocational Major Certificate
- TAFE courses
- Trades and employment opportunities
- Community volunteering