

Agriculture

COURSE DETAILS

Hours	240 hours
Type	Board Developed Course
Duration	2 years
Unit Value	2-unit Year 11 2-unit Year 12
HSC Exam	Yes
ATAR	Yes
Exclusions	None
RECOGNITION	Year 12 Qualification

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Agricultural industries make a significant contribution to Australia's economy through investment, employment of skilled workers, consumption of products from other sectors of the economy and export. Agricultural products contribute significantly to Australia's export income. The total chain, from the farm and the research laboratory to the processing plant, retail outlet and exporter, accounts for a major portion of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. Australia's agricultural industries must undergo significant and continuous change to maintain and possibly enhance this contribution to the Australian economy.

The Agriculture Stage 6 Syllabus provides students with opportunities to understand and appreciate these essential aspects of agriculture. This course provides students with the opportunity to study the interactions between the components of agricultural production, marketing and management, while giving consideration to the issue of sustainability of the farming system. This is an 'on-farm', environment-oriented course

The course provides the foundation knowledge and skills required to study agriculture after completing school, and supports participation in a range of careers in Agriculture and related interdisciplinary industries.

AIMS

The Agriculture Stage 6 Syllabus is designed to develop students' knowledge and understanding about the production and marketing of both animal and plant products. Students should also develop the associated skills and responsible attitudes that are necessary to manage and market these products in a sustainable manner.

YEAR 11 COURSE OUTCOMES (from NESA)

A student:

- describes the complex, dynamic and interactive nature of agricultural production systems
- describes the factors that influence agricultural systems
- describes the biological and physical resources and applies the processes that cause changes in plant production systems
- describes the biological and physical resources and applies the processes that cause changes in animal production systems
- describes the farm as a basic unit of production.
- explains the role of decision-making in the management and marketing of agricultural products in response to consumer and market requirements
- applies the principles and procedures of experimental design and agricultural research
- investigates the role of associated technologies and technological innovation in producing and marketing agricultural products.

TOPICS COVERED

Year 11 Course

- Overview
- Farm Case Study
- Plant Production
- Animal Production

Year 12 Course

- Plant/animal Production
- Farm Product Study
- Elective: Farming for the 21st Century

ASSESSMENT

Assessment strategies may include:

- Examinations
- Practical tasks
- Research tasks
- Analysis of secondary information

POTENTIAL CAREERS / REASONS TO CHOOSE THE COURSE

- Agricultural scientist
- Animal scientist
- Farm management
- Farm consultant
- Veterinarian
- Livestock feed sales/management
- Plant scientist
- Agronomist
- Animal geneticist
- Agricultural mechanic
- Farm supply representative
- Feedlot management
- Agricultural engineer
- Stud manager
- Irrigation manager
- Veterinary nurse
- Farm hand
- Soil scientist