Elective Choices for Year 8, Semester 2, 2016

To date at St John's College, the Year 8 students have been involved in a series of Rotation Subjects which have included elements of The Arts, Technology, Business and Languages. The Semester 2 learning program is designed to enrich the learning experiences of students by offering a combination of Core and Elective Subjects. Core Subjects are areas of learning central to the curriculum.

Complementing Core Subjects, for Semester 2, students will study two (2) Elective Subjects. Elective Subjects are designed to broaden students' learning and develop and extend their skills, interests and abilities.

These offer students the opportunity to experience learning in areas they might find interesting and enjoy and wish to explore. Elective Subjects provide a link with more specialised studies which may be chosen in Years 9 to 12.

Program of Study:

Semester 2, Year 8

For Semester 2 of Year 8, students participate in a course of study that includes the common Core Subjects of:

- Religious Education
- Mathematics
- Humanities (History / Geography)
- English
- Science
- Health and Physical Education

Students then also study two (2) Elective Subjects from those detailed in this handbook, making a total of 8 subjects.

Choosing Elective Subjects

Before making any decisions regarding the choice of Elective Subjects, please consider carefully the information that is presented in this Handbook. More specific information is available from the respective Curriculum Middle Leaders and the student’s subject teachers.

We recommend that students select subjects that they enjoy and in which they have a genuine interest. Students should also consider subjects that they might wish to study in Years 9 to 12.

The Subject Selection Process

Students are required to choose a number of preferences for their Elective Subjects. All courses which are offered must be allocated a preference in this process.

Commencing in 2016, St John’s College will be using the Subject Selection Online (SSO) Program to process student preferences. Students and parents will be given information about how to access this program, including the student passwords and parent PIN numbers. Further details will be provided about the requirements of this process.

Every effort is made to accommodate students’ subject choices, however, some subject combinations may not be possible. It is for this reason that we ask students to nominate extra choices as reserves.
Although all subjects are offered, on occasions there may not be viable numbers for a class (or a second class) to run within the timetable structure of the College. In such instances, we will refer to reserve preferences - as such, it is important to only choose subjects in an order of preference which you wish to be considered for.

Students will generally be provided with their allocated Elective Subjects before the end of the previous semester to enable the necessary resources to be purchased. There will only be a limited amount of change possible after these are distributed, so students do need to think very carefully when selecting their choices.

There is a lot of flexibility provided for students in these selections, but they do need to think very carefully about their overall “plan” for future years when making their choices.

**Contact People:**

- Mr. Mark O’Connor (Assistant Principal)
  - For all general enquiries about this process and subject changes throughout Years 8 - 12

- Curriculum Middle Leaders
  - For any subject specific questions about what is involved in the study of a particular elective and any other information about those subjects

- Mrs. Bernadette Natoli (Careers and VET Co-ordinator)
  - For assistance in career advice, VET training options, University prerequisites and all assistance relating to future study and work options

- Mrs. Maria Cross and Mrs. Debra Barrett (Learning Enhancement)
  - For assistance in making suitable subject choices for students who may require learning support or have needs which need to be catered for within a specialised learning framework

- Year Coordinators
  - For any questions or concerns about student well-being, general issues which affect student participation in school programs, extended absences etc

**ELECTIVE SUBJECT CHOICES AVAILABLE IN SEMESTER 2, 2016**

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BUSINESS AND LOTE (INDONESIAN)

Contact Person: Mrs Sharon Punter

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND BUSINESS STUDIES

What is Digital Technologies and Business Studies?
We live in an ever changing society where technological advancement continues at a rate of speed. Business continues to adapt to these changes in order to communicate and transact with their customers in a digital environment.

What do students learn?
Students have the opportunity to learn and increase their knowledge and technology skills of various software & web based programs to develop their business online through Social Media.

Examples of software and web based programs include Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, PicMonkey, Photoshop and or Paint.

TOPICS OF STUDY
Topics which may be studied throughout these courses include:
- Importance of Social Media
- Types of Social Media/Tools/Users
- Developing a Business using Social Media

How do students learn?
In the course of studying Digital Technologies and Business students will:
1. Investigate various Social Media platforms used by Business. For example Twitter, Facebook, Instagram etc.
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of these platforms as marketing tools for Business.
3. Develop a Business Concept and choose a Social Media Platform to market their business.
4. Create and design content for their Business, using their chosen Social Media platform,
The focus of learning is very much a “hands on” approach, and students will be encouraged to develop their own business in a Digital World.

How are students assessed?
Students will create a Digital Portfolio of Tasks including their evaluation of social media platforms and the content they create.

How can parents/families help?
Parents can assist students by discussing with their student Social Media Etiquette and being safe in a Digital Environment.

Pathways to future learning
The study of Digital Business can lead to further study in this area throughout as electives in Years 9 - 12. This subject provides a pathway for Business Management, Information Technology Design and Media Arts. This subject area may assist students who are looking to pursue a career in this area.

Students may also like to consider the benefits of this subject in terms of further study and training in a variety of Vocational Education and Training (VET) areas relating to the Business and Digital Technologies area. In addition to this, the course will provide a wide variety of useful skills which can be utilised by those seeking to run their own business or follow a career path involving management, marketing, accounting and / or finance aspects.
INDONESIAN

One of the realities of life — 94 percent of the world’s population, (or about 6.15 billion people), currently speak a language other than English.

Travel overseas is so much more interesting and valuable when you can speak the language of the country you are visiting.

Bahasa Indonesia or Indonesian is the language spoken by 270 million people in Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei, three of Australia’s closest northern neighbours.

With average annual economic growth of 7%, Citibank has recently forecast that by 2020 Indonesia’s economy will surpass Australia and that by 2030 Indonesia will be the fourth-largest economy in the world.

This means that knowledge of Indonesian, combined with another skill or discipline, will open the door to rewarding careers in business, engineering, mining, foreign affairs, customs and immigration, the military, law enforcement, the media and education just to mention a few.

Why learn a second language?
Indonesian is a valuable language for Australians to learn. It enhances:
- Cognitive and problem solving skills
- Studies show increased social skills
- Sensitivity to, and understanding of English
- Insights into another culture
- Career paths and opportunities

Students may have an opportunity to travel to Lombok for a language immersion trip in their senior years.

Topics of Study:
1. Travelling around Bali.
   - Focussing on transportation, directions and places to visit in Bali.

2. Fun with Animals
   - Focussing on keeping animals as pets, endangered animals, visiting a farm and a zoo.

Learning experiences:
Learning experiences will be active including role plays, games to build fluency and revise vocab, cultural realia, stories, listening, speaking, writing and reading activities simulating natural settings.

Assessment
Students will be assessed on comprehension skills (listening and reading) and composing skills (speaking and writing). It is also essential that they establish a solid grasp of the vocabulary (language building blocks). These elements are reflected in the assessment tasks which are all done in class. There are no research tasks for assessment.
FOOD AND HOSPITALITY STUDIES

Contact Person: Mrs. Narelle Persich

FOOD STUDIES

Learning focuses on food safety and hygiene, food production, preparation, processing and presentation. The influence of convince foods on society, their advantages and disadvantages on individuals and family groups. Topics which will be studied include:

- Food safety and hygiene
- Food production- where does our food come from?
- Food preparation, processing and presentation
- The evolution of convenience food
- Pre-packaged vs. Homemade: advantages and disadvantages
- Sustainable and healthy alternatives to popular packaged foods

Assessment will comprise of practical food preparation tasks, formative and summative written tasks.

Students are strongly encouraged to take their prepared food products home.
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

Contact Person: Mr. Timothy Jones

The Year 8 Industrial Technology and Design courses at St John’s College comprise two main areas of study:

- Graphics
- Design Technology

GRAPHICS

Student skills and knowledge are developed in the areas of

- Sketching
- 3D Modelling
- Architectural Drawing (Domestic and Commercial)

Semester units may be studied individually to meet the different needs and interest of students.

A strong emphasis will be placed on using Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) programs to produce drawings. Students will also be required to develop hand skills, using a variety of sketching techniques.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN

The content of Design Technology units is structured around practical projects and their design. They are aimed at extending the students’ knowledge and skill in the areas of technology and design.

Semester units may be studied individually to satisfy the different needs and interests of students.

Design Technology Foundation unit

Prerequisite: None

Course Outline:
This course is designed to further enhance the skills they have developed during the year 7 rotation units. To begin with projects will be scaffolded to allow students to grow in confidence and skill level. As students progress throughout the semester the focus will change to allow students to gain an understanding of design. Students will also be required to complete some safety units.
THE ARTS

Contact Person: Ms Kathryn Kiernan-Molloy

Students in Semester 2 of Year 8 can choose subjects from four main areas within this department:

(a) Dance  
(b) Drama  
(c) Music  
(d) Visual Arts

DANCE

Students will learn the essential elements of dance and how to use them to choreograph their own dance sequences. Students will explore their own movement capabilities and will learn new ways to enhance their dance skills through a variety of practical based activities.

Students will learn the fundamental skills for choreography and performance in Dance. Dance offers students the opportunity to develop their physical creativity and self-confidence within a safe learning environment.

In Term 3, the students learn the essential elements of dance through practical based activities. In Term 4, the students learn a dance routine for performance in a popular dance style.

DRAMA

Drama offers students a range of skills within a learning environment which stimulates the imagination, promotes creativity and helps build self-confidence. The collaborative nature of drama enhances teambuilding skills.

In Term 3, the students learn basic improvisational skills in this practical unit of work. In Term 4, the students learn a variety of comic devices for appreciation and performance.
**MUSIC**

In Terms 3 & 4, Year 8 Music students will undertake practical activities to learn about adapting music for performance. These skills will also be enhanced with elements of composing and scoring.

**VISUAL ARTS**

Art units in the Junior School cover a diverse range of topics reflecting the extraordinary breadth of the world of Art. They develop the student’s technical, creative and conceptual thinking skills.

Learning Experiences in Year 8 Art include:

- Lessons in Portraiture
- Tonal drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Print-making
- Understanding and applying design elements/principles to achieve unity and balance within an artwork
- Understanding of Renaissance, Realism, Expressionism and Cubism through being influenced by artists from these movements.
The Living Skills course will be a student-centred course of study which will focus on a range of useful skills which students will be able to adapt to their everyday lives.

In contemporary times, it is important for students to be able to explore their individual needs and be giving opportunities to be able to enhance their learning through this exploration. This subject will assist students in developing skills which may be useful in those pursuits.

The content and course outline will be finalised after input from students who choose to study this subject. There will be an opportunity for these students to have some control over the direction that the subject will take so that it caters for their interests and needs.

Areas that may be studied, could include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Organisational skills
- Team building
- Problem solving skills
- Personal grooming, courtesies and etiquette
- Personal finance and budgeting
- Enhancing computer skills in identified areas
- Relaxation techniques
- Fitness and recreation pursuits
- Maintaining a healthy lifestyle
- Music, film and literature appreciation
- Photography and film skills
- Car, garden and house maintenance
- General life skills (e.g. cooking, sewing etc)
- Cultural awareness
- First Aid
- Community Service activities
- “Maker-space” type activities (e.g. Ozbots and Coding)
- STEAM Projects
- Any other area identified by students as being something they wish to learn more about.

Assessment for this subject will be skills based and include a portfolio of work that students will be able to take with them at the conclusion of the semester.