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# Victorian Certificate of Education

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## HIGHER EDUCATION STUDIES IN THE VCE

The Higher Education Studies Program allows independent, high achieving Year 12 students the opportunity to include tertiary level studies as part of their VCE. The Higher Education Studies in the VCE Program offers both Extension and Advanced Standing studies.

### Why pursue a Higher Education study?

Completing the Higher Education Program offers students access to a range of potential benefits, including:

- Academic challenge in a broader range of studies
- Credit towards an undergraduate qualification at the institution where the study was satisfactorily completed
- Contribution towards satisfactory completion of the VCE as a Unit 3 and 4 sequence without a study score
- Contribution to the calculation of the ATAR via an increment for a fifth or sixth study.

Note: Only one Higher Education Study may contribute towards satisfactory completion for the award of the VCE.

## ATAR INCREMENT

Where a student successfully completes a Higher Education study, and meets other Victorian Tertiary Admission Centre (VTAC) requirements, the study can contribute to the student's ATAR as a fifth or sixth study.

Further information on Higher Education Studies in the VCE is available from the Head of Student Career Development or <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/studies/studiesextension.html>.

## VCE BACCALAUREATE

The VCE (Baccalaureate) provides an additional form of recognition for those students who choose to undertake the demands of studying both a higher level mathematics and a language in their VCE program of study.

The VCE (Baccalaureate) is contained within the VCE and is not another senior secondary credential. The two senior secondary certificates in Victoria are the VCE and VCAL.

To be eligible to receive the VCE (Baccalaureate), the student must satisfactorily complete the VCE and receive a study score for each prescribed study component.

The VCE program of study must include:

- A Units 3 and 4 sequence in English or Literature or English Language with a study score of 30 or above; or a Units 3 and 4 sequence in English as an Additional Language (EAL) with a study score of 33 or above
- A Units 3 and 4 sequence in either Mathematics Methods or Specialist Mathematics
- A Units 3 and 4 sequence in a VCE language
- At least two other Units 3 and 4 sequences