



Balcatta

Senior High School
Independent Public School

2025

Course Selection Handbook

A course information guide
for Year 9 and Year 10 parents and students



THE ARTS

Gifted and Talented Visual Art

This course is compulsory for Gifted and Talented Visual Art students and is not available to general students.

It is a studio-based course that ranges across all the major disciplines and encompasses activities in support of the Gifted and Talented Program.

Pre-Requisites:

Must be a current Gifted and Talented Visual Art student. For more information please contact Sherree.Tomlinson@education.wa.edu.au.



Gifted and Talented Visual Art			
Year 9		Year 10	
9GTART	\$295.00	10GTART	\$295.00

Urban Art

Urban Art is an exciting and hands-on visual art course where you will learn new skills such as designing your own letter style, screen printing and a variety of painting styles.

This creative and expressive form of art encourages students to look at street art and graphic design for inspiration. You will design and print your own t-shirt logos, paint skateboard decks and learn stencilling techniques.

No previous art experience is required – just a love for modern graffiti and self-expression is needed.



Urban Art			
Year 9		Year 10	
9URART	\$60.00	10URART	\$80.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Photo Media

In this course you will be provided with opportunities to view media work from contemporary and past times to explore viewpoints from Australian and international media work. You will consider the impact of context and audience on media work, and explore the trends on how audiences use media.

You will extend and refine your skills and processes for problem-solving, working as a team, following timelines and using processes and strategies to ensure safe and responsible use of media equipment.

You will develop media skills in a photography context. You will explore how images can create meaning and will learn technical skills and processes for creating your own photographs and other media works using Adobe Photoshop and InDesign. Production tasks may include magazines, advertisements, video game covers, movie posters, social media campaigns.



Photo Media		
Year 9		
9PHOTO	\$70.00	
Cost is approximate and subject to change		

Media Arts

This course will provide you with opportunities to explore in more depth the way media work is constructed in different contexts and how it can be used to challenge the values of an audience. You will explore past and current media trends on audience use of media.

You will continue to make and respond to your own media productions and media work within the selected media type, genre or style studied, using refined media production skills and processes: problem solving, working as a team, or independently; setting and following personal and group timelines; and independently using media equipment safely and responsibly.

You will specifically focus on the Hollywood Film and TV Documentaries. You will study how the way we view film and TV in the home is changing, with focus on *TV on demand* and *Netflix*. Practical assessments will involve the creation, production and promotion of media works, aimed at intended target audiences, using *Adobe Premiere Pro*.

Media Arts		
		Year 10
	10MEDIA	\$100.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change		

Music

This course is designed around a contemporary music context. It will provide you with opportunities to further your musical skills and understanding through playing a variety of instruments. Activities will be generally performance-based and consist of listening, writing, responding, analysis, composition, arrangement, theory and performance skills.

You will have the opportunity to apply for the IMSS (Instrumental School Services) program, which requires a dedicated commitment, including daily practice routines and out of school hours.

The pre-requisite skills required are either taught in Year 7 and Year 8 Music or can be learnt privately through external tuition. Students who have not been in the Year 7 or Year 8 Music program will be required to audition to be considered for this course.

Post School Education: Certificate III in various music contexts – including sound engineering, TV/film and radio production, professional performer, operations manager and many more. See North Metro TAFE and SAE College webpages for more information.

Music			
Year 9		Year 10	
9MUSIC	\$60.00	10MUSIC	\$60.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Specialist Dance

This course runs as part of the Approved Specialist Program in Dance at Balcatta Senior High School. You are expected to continue from the Year 8 course into Year 9 Dance and from Year 9 Dance into Year 10 Dance. The Specialist Dance program is heavily participation-based, and as such, a high level of class attendance is required.

There are also three compulsory out-of-school performances each year which form a major part of the assessment program.

Only available to selected Dance students or by audition. For further information, please contact our Specialist Dance Teacher, Taylor Nicholls.

Post-School Career Options: Performer, Choreographer, Dance Teacher, Arts Management, Theatre Manager, Stage Manager, Set Designer and Construction, Lighting Designer, Costume Designer, Exercise and Sports Science study, Yoga/Pilates Instructor, Physiotherapist, Studio Manager, Dancewear and Supplies retail, Marketing and Promotions, Arts Administration, Events Coordinator, Public Relations, Logistics, Front of House, Performance Making, Director.

Tayla.Nicholls@education.wa.edu.au

Specialist Dance			
Year 9		Year 10	
9SDA	\$130.00	10SDA	\$130.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Drama

Do you enjoy acting and performing? Do you yearn for the bright lights, the stage, the glamour of the theatre and the movies? Then this unit is all about you. Learn the basics of acting, voice production, improvisation and stage management. You will be involved in creating and performing using a wide range of theatrical techniques while learning the fundamentals of drama.

In Semester Two you will learn how to develop your acting prowess even further. You will explore the backstage, lighting, make-up and audio techniques while learning the fundamentals of playwriting and scripting. This is your chance to really develop your acting skills to a high level.

Drama			
Year 9		Year 10	
9DRA	\$50.00	10DRA	\$50.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Outdoor Recreation

Year 9

This unit is designed to develop knowledge, self-management skills, interpersonal skills and movement skills in outdoor and indoor recreational environments and first aid.

You will learn in the contexts of mountain biking, expedition and camping skills (including camp cooking), orienteering, archery, table tennis and ten pin bowling, as well as non-mainstream sports such as dodgeball, capture the flag, ultimate frisbee, bocce and beach volleyball.



Year 10

This more advanced course will provide you with opportunities to develop skills and attitudes for recreational activities in a variety of situation and environments, such as surf awareness, surfing and snorkelling in the ocean, rock climbing, golfing and camping skills. This course will enable you to develop safety skills in first aid and resuscitation and recreational skills in the areas of table tennis, badminton and dodgeball. You must also be a competent swimmer (Level 6 or above).

Outdoor Recreation			
Year 9		Year 10	
9OR	\$250.00	10OR	\$250.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Soccer

Year 9

You will start the course by developing warm up activities with and without the ball. You will focus on developing specific skills and team playing strategies. Leadership and interpersonal skills will also be a focus. You will also learn the rules for indoor soccer, futsal and outdoor soccer. Participation in class activities and inter-school games will improve your game playing techniques.

Year 10

This course will develop your basic and advanced soccer game skills and referee skills. You will be exposed to a variety of soccer games, including various indoor soccer rules and other soccer orientated games, with the focus on specific strategies and tactics and injury prevention.

Special Soccer			
Year 9		Year 10	
9SOCC	\$30.00	10SOCC	\$30.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Strength and Fitness

This course will be conducted in the Balcatta SHS Fitness Centre. You will learn the fundamentals and benefits of strength and fitness training, including the correct technique for a variety of weightlifting exercises, including but not limited to: bench press, barbell squat and deadlift. You will learn how to create your own workout routines to reach fitness goals, predominantly using circuit training. This class is designed to enhance athletic performance across sports and recreational activities.



Strength and Fitness			
Year 9		Year 10	
9SF	\$50.00	10SF	\$50.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Net Sports

The purpose of this course will be to develop your skills and strategies in the sports of Volleyball, Badminton and Tennis. You will also have the opportunity to play other net sports such as Pickleball, Soccer Tennis, Spikeball and Footbag. Net sports will provide you with more opportunity for inclusivity in areas such as size and gender as there is no physical contact. Learning of rules, physical activity and umpiring will be key components of the course.

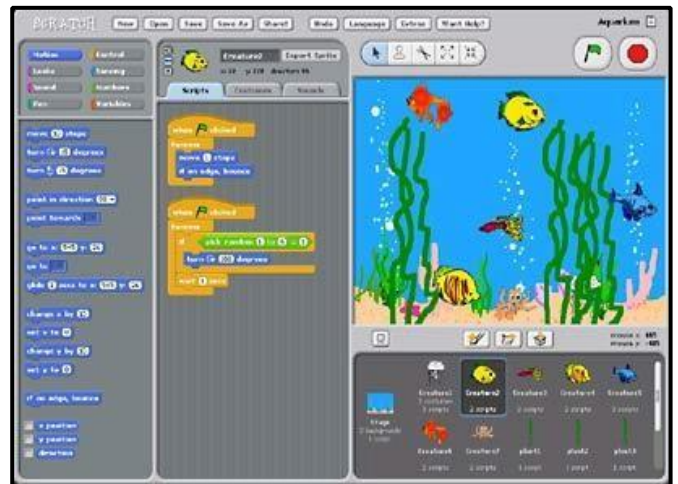
Net Sports			
Year 9		Year 10	
9NET	\$30.00	10NET	\$30.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change			

TECHNOLOGIES

Electronic Presentations

This course is an introduction to presentation and animation software. You will be taught skills to manipulate text, images and audio. These skills will then be applied to creating digital animations and editing digital audio clips, incorporating music, sound effects and voice over.

The course culminates in using graphics and audio to create an interactive animated computer game using Scratch coding.



Note: Entry level requirements: None

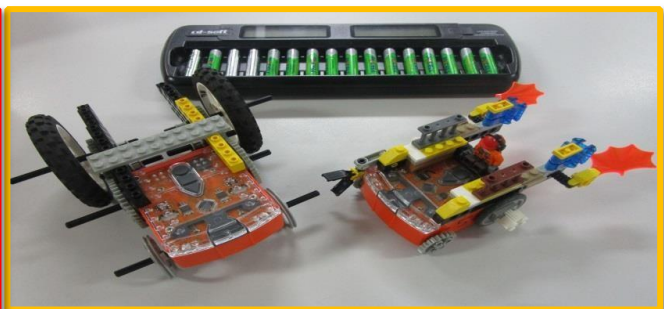
Electronic Presentations	
Year 9	
9EP	\$40.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change	

Coding and Robotics

You will be introduced to the concept of computer controlled robotics. You will create code to respond to sensor input, then control motors, sound and lights.

These coding skills will then be applied to programming autonomous Edison® robots. You will be presented with real life challenges to solve, using a programmable robot with computer controlled stepper motors and light, infrared and sound sensors.

Note: Entry level requirements: High Mathematics achievement (A or B)



Coding and Robotics	
Year 9	
9CR	\$50.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change	

Computer Controlled Robotics

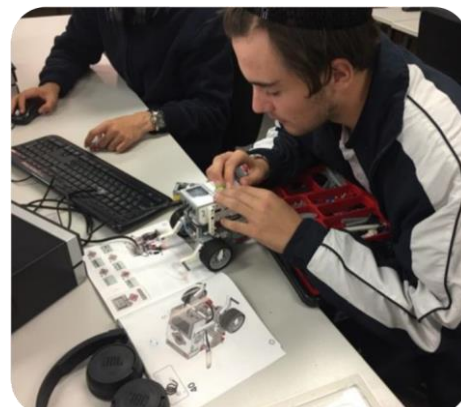
In this course, you will have the opportunity to design, build and code robots using Lego Spike Prime kits to address real-life engineering challenges.

The robots will be coded to respond to stimulus from the environment and operate stepper motors to activate mechanisms that carry out a task.

This is a practical subject suitable for students who are interested in digital technology, coding and introduction-level mechanical engineering concepts.

Note: Entry level requirements: High Mathematics achievement (A or B)

Course Pathway: Year 11 Applied Information Technology, Year 11 Computer Science, Certificate II in Workplace Skills, Certificate III in Business, Certificate II in Applied Digital Technologies.



Computer Controlled Robotics		
	Year 10	
	10CCR	\$50.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change		

Childcare

This is a fun course designed to teach you about pregnancy, birth and children from preconception to age five. It is a great opportunity to understand more about parental expectations and responsibilities associated with having and caring for children. You will spend time exploring:

- how children develop and learn through play
- child health and safety
- handmade crafts which may include a baby mobile and creating a children's book
- planning and preparing a healthy snack for a child

This is an ideal course for any student who is interested in finding out more about children or intends to work with children. It also provides a great background for the Year 11 and Year 12 general course of Children, Family and the Community.

Course Pathway: Year 11 Children, Family and Community.

Childcare		
	Year 10	
	10CHILD	\$90.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change		

Textiles

Year 9

This is a fun, practical subject suitable for students wanting to learn new skills and create textile products. You will learn how to safely set up and operate a sewing machine and utilise these skills to make a number of projects, including:

- a variety of different styles of bags
- simple clothing items, such as sleep shorts and beanies
- upcycled fashion/textile garments
- bedroom accessories
- craft items

You will be making a number of items from this list based on student choices and interests. There will be lots of opportunities for you to put your own creative stamp on your work.

Year 10

This is a fun, practical subject suitable for anyone wanting to further their sewing skills and creativity to produce textile and fashion products. You will build on your sewing skills by demonstrating a number of different machine and hand-sewing techniques. You will explore:

- the use of patterns to create fashion garments
- selecting fabric, size and layout of pattern pieces for garment construction
- following basic pattern instructions
- garment construction
- how to adapt existing fashion/textile items to make into a new upcycled piece

You will be making a number of projects using the skills developed from the list above. This is an ideal course for any student who is interested in the Fashion and Textiles industry.

Textiles			
Year 9		Year 10	
9TEXT	\$80.00	10TEXT	\$80.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Food

Year 9

International Foods

This course will provide students with the opportunity to prepare and savour foods from a variety of countries. You will be exposed, through foods, to the customs of people from all over the world and will investigate:

- unique cooking techniques;
- meal patterns and cultural traditions;
- staple foods and ingredients; and
- an array of flavourful traditional dishes.

You will explore and prepare a number of delicious dishes from different regions of the world.

Year 10 Café Culture

Dining out is an enjoyable experience but can also be very costly. The aim of this course is to expose students to the joy of dining and discover how easy and delicious it can be to dine in instead. You will have opportunities to:

- design café style menus and dishes
- create a high tea style morning/afternoon tea
- develop cake decorating skills
- learn about sustainability in the food service industry
- discover coffee culture
- practise food presentation and garnishing

You will prepare a number of delicious treats based on the list above. This is an ideal course for any student who has an interest in Foods and the Food industry. It is also a good background for the Year 11 and Year 12 general course of Food Science and Technology.

Course Pathway: Year 11 Food Science and Technology; Certificate II in Hospitality.

Food			
Year 9		Year 10	
9IF	\$120.00	10CAFE	\$135.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			



Beauty

Year 9 Beauty Basics and Design

This course is for students who want to increase their beauty knowledge and understanding. From dazzling nail art to manicures, make-up trends and styles, you will learn valuable skills in communicating with customers and clients in the industry-standard Balcatta Beauty Training Clinic. Skin care and nutrition for skin health will also be covered in this exciting course. You will explore:

- manicure procedures and equipment
- make-up styles for different time periods, cultures and trends
- nutrition for skin health and well-being
- nail art designing and application
- sustainability in the beauty industry

This is an ideal course for those students looking for further studies in the Beauty, Hair and Retail Industries.

Course Pathway: Year 10 Beauty Culture and Design; Year 11/12 Certificate II in Retail (Beauty Focus).



Year 10 Beauty Culture and Design

This course is for students who want to increase their beauty knowledge and understanding. Make-up styling, beauty product design and production and skin care are just a few of the fun and interesting topics you will study in this course. You will learn important safety and hygiene practices for make-up, nails and skin care application in our industry standard Balcatta Beauty Training Clinic. You will explore:

- make-up trends, design and application
- make-up application and equipment
- beauty product design and production
- nail embellishments and application
- skin care and health
- health and safety in Beauty clinics
- sustainability in the fashion industry

This is an ideal course for students looking for further studies in the Beauty, Hair and Retail Industries

Subject Pathway: Year 11/12 Certificate II in Retail (Beauty Focus).

Beauty and Styling			
Year 9		Year 10	
9BEAUTY	\$75.00	10BEAUTY	\$75.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Design and Technology

Design and Technologies (D&T) courses provide students with the opportunity to further develop their designing abilities, project planning competencies and hand-tool and machining skills to create their own personalised projects in our state-of-the art workshops. D&T courses will prepare students for further training in woodwork, building & construction and relevant trades.

Wood Technology

You will improve your ability to research, design, plan and build individualised projects utilising a variety of hardwood and softwood timbers. Emphasis will be on workshop safety and effective use of essential woodwork hand tools, power tools and machinery.

Year 9 projects include game boxes, balsa wood CO2 dragsters, hardwood chopping boards and lathe turned carvers' mallets.

Year 10 D&T Wood course projects include a serving tray, tool tote, step stool, side table and dart board cabinet.

Course Pathways: Year 11 Materials, Design and Technology (Wood), Year 11 Building and construction.

Wood Technology			
Year 9		Year 10	
9WOOD	\$115.00	10WOOD	\$115.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Materials Technologies

You will improve your ability to research, design, plan and build individualised projects utilising a variety of materials including timbers, plastics and metals. Emphasis will be on workshop safety and effective use of essential metalwork hand tools, power tools and machinery.

Year 9 projects include tin wind-spinners, acrylic key chains and sheet metal tool tray.

Year 10 projects include yard dice-set, hexagonal steel and acrylic pen holders and sheet metal tool carrying cases.

Materials Technologies			
Year 9		Year 10	
9MT	\$115.00	10MT	\$115.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

SCIENCE

Astronomy

This course will cover a broad range of astronomy and cosmology topics and is intended to support your learning in mainstream Science classes. The course will cover content such as orbital mechanics, space exploration, the history of astronomy, cosmology, basic astronomical observation and astrophotography.

The course will provide a foundation for further studies in Science, especially Physics, Chemistry and Biology, and may suit students looking to pursue astronomy or astrophysics in a tertiary setting, or those who are curious about the night sky or space travel.

Both theoretical and practical activities such as model rocketry and the use of internet-connected telescopes are included and will involve Balcatta Senior High school's partnerships with various external bodies such as Curtin University's BinarX program and the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR).

Astronomy	
Year 9	
9ASTRO	\$110.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change	

Criminal Investigation and Justice

(Criminology, Forensic Science, Psychology, Law and Justice)

This course will provide you with an introduction to the various domains of expertise involved in the criminal justice system. You will gain perspective and knowledge in such areas as criminology, forensic science, psychology, law and justice by examining crime, the criminal justice system and related social issues. In focusing on the causes of crime and society's response to crime, this course will give students a well-rounded perspective on the various arms of the justice system and the relationships between them.

Criminal Investigation and Justice			
Year 9		Year 10	
9CIJ	\$100.00	10CIJ	\$110.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Psychology

This introductory course will cover the basic principles of psychology, including a range of topics such as developmental psychology, social psychology and cognitive psychology. You will learn about key concepts like memory, motivation and perception, and will have the opportunity to participate in experiments and learn how to analyse data. The course will also cover research methods and statistics, and will encourage critical thinking and the application of psychological principles to real-life scenarios.

The course provides a foundation for further study in psychology or related fields, and may be useful for students interested in pursuing careers in fields such as social work, counselling or education.

The course offers a diverse range of subject matter which may be of interest if you are curious about human behaviour or contemplating a career in psychology. Topics include the psychology behind dreams and criminal behaviour, as well as the mental preparation required for top-level sports performance.

Psychology	
Year 10	
10PSY	\$110.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change	

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Year 9

Ancient History – Myths and Legends of the Ancient World

In Semester 1, you will learn about world mythology, that is, mythology from all around the world! You will gain an understanding of the various ancient religions of the world, such as Ancient Egyptian and Ancient Norse religions, but also of still surviving ancient religions such as Buddhism. With this knowledge, you will then explore some of the more specific myths and stories of the world that still are loved in the modern day. Some notable examples of topics covered include death in Ancient Egypt, the chaotic adventures of Thor & Loki, and the end of the world itself.

In Semester 2, you will focus on the myths and legends of the Ancient Greeks. You will first learn about the pantheon of the Greek gods, how they were created and how they bickered terribly like any good family should. From there you will delve deep into the classic stories the Greeks left us over 2,000 years ago. These will include looking at Hercules and his 12 Labours, the Trojan War and the epic adventures of Odysseus.

Year 10

Ancient History – Myths and Legends of the Ancient World

In Semester 1, you will focus on Classical Greece, which has given the modern world so many important ideas in politics, philosophy, drama and even maths and science. You will learn about many of the important key ideas the Ancient Greeks gave us, such as democracy and how we should live our lives the best we can. It is not all peaceful conversation, however, and much of the course will also investigate the terrible wars and chaos that often gripped Greece. This is the perfect chance to learn about famous names like Alexander the Great, Socrates and Leonidas of Sparta.

In Semester 2 you will learn about ancient Rome. Rome ruled much of the world for around 1,000 years, and in this course you will be learning how they did it – and what happened to them. There will be no shortage of great heroes to learn about, such as Julius Caesar, as well as plenty of terrible and dangerous leaders such as the mad Emperor Caligula. You will examine the great heights of Roman knowledge, architecture and military might, as well as Rome's lowest points, full of chaos, murder and destruction.

Ancient History			
Year 9		Year 10	
9HIST	\$30.00	10HIST	\$30.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

Personal Wealth Creation

Money doesn't buy happiness, but it can buy a jet ski. This financial literacy subject develops your ability to understand how money works in the world as well as how we earn, manage and spend it sustainably in our lives. You will develop plans to create and maintain wealth, budget, save, pay tax and invest. Perhaps most importantly, you will learn how to spend - by building blueprints to purchase your first car, manage a mobile phone plan and keep credit cards under control. You will create an investment portfolio, manage risk, understand how shares are priced and how external factors impacts these prices. This is put into practice in the ASX Share Market game, where you will receive a virtual \$50,000 to invest over a ten-week period. You will be more confident dealing with finances, have a greater overview of our financial systems, understand how the share market works and appreciate the true value of money.

Personal Wealth Creation			
Year 9		Year 10	
		10WLTH	\$50.00
Costs are approximate and subject to change			

WORKPLACE LEARNING

Authority Developed Workplace Learning (ADWPL) Endorsed Program

(for inclusion in the Year 11 and Year 12 WA Certificate of Education (WACE))

ADWPL (work experience) is an Endorsed Program which will provide you with opportunities to develop skills in the workplace whilst obtaining credit towards your Senior School WA Certificate of Education (WACE).

You will undertake training in a real workplace, where you will be expected to demonstrate skills in the context of the industry in which you are working.

There are no school-based assignments in this program. You must meet the following expectations in order to complete the placement.

- Meet workplace hours, dress and behavioural expectations
- Complete logbook requirements
- Complete a skills journal
- Keep a record of attendance

Student work placements are at selected times during the year. Wednesday is the preferred placement day. You will be expected to catch up on missed class work and negotiate direct with your teachers, adjusted deadlines and test dates.

You will need to ensure you demonstrate the appropriate “ready for work” skills. For example:

- Good communication
- Good time-management
- Well-organised
- Enthusiastic
- Show initiative

The ADWPL program is recommended for students who would like to explore trades and careers with a practical “hands-on” focus.

It is also ideal for students who might want to make applications for school based pre-apprenticeships as they become available as well as other school-supported TAFE training options in senior school.

ADWPL Endorsed Program		
	Year 10	
One Placement	10ADWPL	\$75.00
Cost is approximate and subject to change		

PLEASE NOTE: All course costs mentioned in this brochure are approximate only