

# Understanding the WACE & Trinity Pathways

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# WACE

## What is a WACE?

- Western Australian Certificate of Education
- Effectively a WACE is Secondary Graduation.
- Not everyone will achieve a WACE.
- Trinity achieved 100% Graduation in 2024 & 2025.
- Main reasons for not getting a WACE –
  - Not getting 14 'C' grades across Years 11 and 12.
  - Not passing one of the **OLNA** components.
  - *Student is completing a number of Foundation Courses or alternative courses (WASSA)*

# WACE

## To achieve WACE:

- Demonstrate the WACE literacy & numeracy standard
- Achieve Category 3 in OLNA or previously via NAPLAN (Band 8 or higher). **Pass the OLNA.**
- Breadth & Depth Requirement: Complete a minimum of 20 course units **(10 year long subjects across Years 11 and 12)**
- Two Year 11 units from an English course and one pair of Year 12 units from an English course **(do English in Year 11 and Year 12).**
- One pair of units in Year 12 from each of List A and List B. **Typically this is achieved by completing English and a Maths\*\* in Year 12.**

# WACE

## Achievement Standard

- Achieve a minimum of 14 C grades (or equivalent) in Year 11 and 12 \*\*
- Minimum literacy and numeracy requirement demonstrated through OLNA. Pass the 3 components (Reading, Writing and Numeracy) of OLNA. There are 6 chances across Years 10 to 12.

# WACE

- Endorsed programs and/or VET credit transfer, can reduce the required number of course units. Certificates and Workplace Learning count towards the WACE. Completing these is equivalent to getting a C grade.
- All students (whether they have achieved the WACE or not) will receive a WASSA Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement – a record of all courses and or programs completed.

# Increasing Levels of Difficulty

## What Courses Are There?

### ATAR

- For students who are aiming to go to university and will need to sit an external exam which will get them an ATAR. Harder.

### • GENERAL

- For students aiming to enter further training or the workforce straight from school. These are not examined. A little less difficult, still plenty of work that is challenging and engaging, but without the same level of academic rigour as an ATAR subject.

# Increasing Levels of Difficulty

## What Courses Are There?

### Foundation

- For those students who need extra support to meet the literacy and numeracy standard by the end of Year 12.
- **Preliminary**
  - Focuses on the practical application of knowledge, skills and understandings to a range of environments that will be accessed by students with special education needs. Grades are not assigned for these units.

# Course Selection

Things to consider:

- Meet WACE requirements.
- For Yr 10 > Yr 11 which 6 Subjects will you choose.
- Trinity College minimum prerequisites.
- Choose courses which are realistic, but challenging.
- Choose subjects where you have an interest. Subjects you enjoy.

Subjects you are passionate about.

- Pay attention to the prerequisites
  - Be Realistic
  - Our experience would suggest that students who have not met a prerequisite by Year 10 are unlikely to experience success in that particular subject.

# Course Selection

Things to consider:

- A minimum of four courses at ATAR level for ATAR calculation – most students will have at least 5.
- University prerequisites. Are there particular subjects required for entry?
- TISC GUIDE
- **chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.tisc.edu.au/static-fixed/guide/slar-2028.pdf**
- Maximise TAFE entry. Many courses are highly competitive.
- Strongly consider taking on RE ATAR if you are on an ATAR Pathway.



# Pathways

# Secondary Options

- ATAR
- GENERAL
- WORKPLACE LEARNING
- 'Alternative' Entry – Curtin UniReady, Uni Path  
Notre Dame
- TAFE
- Accredited Courses – Certificate etc etc

# Pathways for Year 11

- Year 11 subject selection is about choosing the right option for YOU!
- Some students have an innate ability and a strong work ethic towards studies. A workload of 5 or more ATAR subjects requires a significant amount of time, dedication and a consistent homework/revision strategy.
- Other students learn in different ways and may not be suited to lots of assessments, exams and will benefit from more practical or alternative courses.

# Pathway Considerations

- If you aren't achieving 60% in most of your Year 10 subjects you should consider non-ATAR alternatives – General Courses, WPL
- VET pathways provides opportunities for students to gain either apprenticeships/employment quicker than an ATAR pathway
  - ~Constantly updated to reflect changing industry trends
  - ~General courses, Certificate courses count towards WACE

# Year 12 Alternatives to ATAR

- The above session is running in the LIBRARY – offered 1,2,3,4 & 6.

# KEY TRINITY PEOPLE

Mr Stephen Kernutt  
*Careers & Transition Coordinator*

Mr Tim Hince  
*Deputy Principal Learning and Innovation*