ELECTIVES: YEAR 9 2013

Art

This elective is for students who are inspired to create. This course will also help students who are keen to develop their skills in preparation for VCE Art/Studio Arts. Students will continue to develop skills in the areas that were covered in the core course in Year Seven and elective course in Year Eight. Specific areas of study may include Painting, Print Making, Drawing, Sculpture, Ceramics, Computer-Aided Imagery and Mixed Media.

Students will build up a folio of work as well as accompanying development work in their visual art diary. There is an emphasis on learning and exploring new techniques to express individual themes and ideas through the making of art.

In theory lessons a range of art periods and styles are studied to complement the practical assignments. Students will research the work of a variety of Australian and International artists and study the influences they have had on artworks and art processes. The study of past and contemporary artists and their work practices will be assisted through relevant excursions and research trips or visiting artists.

Commerce (Civics, Citizenship and the Law)

This elective provides you with information about our legal system so that you are able to understand your legal rights, the functions of courts, and the way elections operate. Excursions reinforce the concepts studied in class. You will also learn how to manage your personal finances. Issues such as coping with mobile phones, jobs, budgeting and other finance problems are studied through the use of various Internet and computer related case studies. This elective provides a good background for studies in Accounting, Economics, Legal Studies, and Business Management in the VCE.

Computer Games (Programming)

Programming for games development is the focus of this elective. This subject has been designed to provide students with a broader range of skills and knowledge in programming. Students will learn the fundamental concepts and terminology of software application development and develop skills in designing and creating computer games. The course provides an overview of the software development process and using GameMaker students will create computer games of increasingly difficulty and complexity. Students will develop their problem solving abilities and develop an understanding of the components that make up today's computer games.

Drama

You may choose one or both Drama subjects listed below

Drama- Story making- Mask and Performance Creation (Semester 1)

The Craft of the Stage (Term One)
Write, create, and star in your own piece of theatre. Find out how things work behind the scenes as well as on stage. Learn how to light, costume and design a performance.

The Magic of Theatre (Term Two)
Learn about how masks are designed, made and utilised in performance. Improvise and workshop your own mask performance piece.

Some of the best plays from Term 2 and Term 3 will be performed in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre and also appear in the Festival Of The Arts drama presentation.

***If you choose the Drama elective you are required to provide and wear drama blacks***
**Drama- Performance Skills (Semester 2)**

**Australian Theatre; Then and Now (Term Three)**
Students will perform excerpts from several Australian plays, developing a wide range of characterization skills.

**Circus and Clowning (Term Four)**
Ever wanted to juggle or do you like to tumble and make people laugh? After gaining a theoretical understanding of circus skills, each student will become an ‘expert’ in a specific circus skill, before teaching this skill to other class members. Students will then develop a performance for the junior school and a tutorial for their peers.

Some of the best plays from Term 2 and Term 3 will be performed in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre and also appear in the Festival Of The Arts drama presentation.

***If you choose the Drama Elective you are required to provide and wear Drama Blacks***

**Multimedia and Web Authoring**

This course will give students the opportunity to develop multimedia skills in digital graphics using Abode Photoshop and 2D animations using Flash. Using the web-enabled manipulated graphics and animations, students will then create a websites using web authoring software. Using industry standard application software students will create web pages containing text, graphics, animations, and internal and external hyperlinks.

**Media**

The Year 9 Media elective continues to develop the student's visual story telling skills, as well as understanding of the different forms of media and a more defined look at the production process. Students will study how media images are composed and communicate a message to an audience. They will put their skills into practice, shooting and producing a short film montage using cameras, microphones and the green screen. Then students will apply these skills to producing a music video. Students will study the way in which music videos are composed and their effect on the viewer. The students will then make their own music video, concentrating on how camera angles, framing and editing can convey the message and story of their chosen song. The projects will be created using their Ipads and the cameras and Apple Mac computer suite in the Media Room.

**Music**

The Elective Music course structure at Year 9 level offers students the possibility of studying Music either for one semester or for the whole year. Year 9 Music students will undertake the VET Certificate I in Creative Industries. This certificate is a nationally recognised industry-based qualification which allows students to develop their performance and composition skills. This course opens a pathway for students to undertake the Certificate II in Music Performance in Year 10. In all aspects of the course, students will be required to a) Investigate b) Develop c) Evaluate and d) Act upon their ideas and inspirations as developing young musicians. Students will research and explore a range of music styles and develop their skills through different modes of musical creativity. One period per week is a dedicated aural perception and music theory session. This session is led by the music teacher who will at times base the lesson on repertoire under investigation by students.

All elective Music students are expected to be currently enrolled in a course of private instrumental tuition, and to participate in an official College Music Ensemble. By undertaking Year 9 Music, students are agreeing to abide by these conditions.

**Product Design**

Students will follow the product design process to develop innovative and creative solutions to a number of design briefs. In this elective students will write their own design briefs, conduct client research and generate ideas using freehand drawing and computer aided design (CAD). They will work safely, using a range of tools and machines, to produce unique products that meet a client’s requirements. Students will develop a further understanding of the history of iconic products as well as how design and technology have helped to shape our 21st Century lives.
**Product Design (CAD)**

This course is recommended for creative students interested in selecting VCE courses such as Product Design and Technology and/or Visual Communication and Design in the future. This elective offers students a unique opportunity to gain the necessary skills to use Solidworks 3D CAD software, to design, model and create realistic models and renderings of everyday products. The focus of this course is on designing and creating parts, assemblies and fully dimensioned working drawings. Students will design products to meet specific requirements for 3D printing and will explore the possibilities of computer aided manufacturing techniques. They will gain an understanding of how engineers, designers and architects, amongst others, use CAD to help build the world around us.

**Visual Communication and Design**

This course is designed to introduce students to the exciting world of design concepts through practical tasks. Students will create their designs using freehand drawing, instrumental drawing and computer programs. Some examples of projects which students may work on are architectural drawings, posters, CD covers, logos, packaging and brochures. Each design task requires students to work through the design process which is to research information, draw and sketch ideas, then trial and refine their ideas. They must also think about the purpose of the final art work and consider who the target audience is and how to attract the attention of this audience. Students will be taught to render their final presentations using a range of media such as colour pencil, ink, fine liner and digital imaging. Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator are the computer programs that are taught in this subject.

**Writer’s Workshop**

Would you like to publish your poetry in an anthology? Put your song lyrics to music? Create a children’s picture book that you read to primary students? Interview a friend or family member? Write a history of Aitken College with model you design and make? Write a play that is performed? Produce a research project on an issue or theme close to your heart? If you join the Writer’s Workshop group you will be able to do any of these exciting activities and more. You will be given the opportunity to write about anything that interests you using any style of writing – poetry, plays, film/TV scripts, letters, journals, short stories, brochures and posters, songs, interviews, histories and research projects.

A Writer’s Workshop is a safe place where rough ideas are created, refined through a drafting/editing process and finally published. All members of the group will work closely together as a team. You will undertake many different activities, including drama/role play, working with a professional writer, meditation, reading and journal writing. The Writer’s Workshop is not just for gifted writers – anybody interested in publishing their work is welcome. All you need is a willingness to participate, to share your ideas and experiment with your writing.

Everyone has something to say. The Writer’s Workshop gives you a voice that will be heard by others. Have a go! You might surprise others. You might even surprise yourself!