

MUDGEES HIGH SCHOOL



Providing high quality education in a safe, respectful and responsible environment.



Year 8 Elective Handbook

2019

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Junior Curriculum

General information

The Mudgee High School community is proud of its school and of the achievements of its students. We are constantly striving to provide high quality education in a safe, respectful and responsible environment.

At Mudgee High School, we are committed to providing the best possible opportunities for all students. To ensure this happens, many hours of research, discussion and consultation have gone into developing curriculum structures for junior students. These structures are continually monitored and, where appropriate, modified. It is inevitable that change will occur in schools as the world around us is changing so rapidly.

If students satisfactorily complete their studies in the junior school and satisfy the requirements of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and the Department of Education (DoE), they will be issued with a Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

This booklet is designed to provide information on the Year 8 elective structure. This includes specific elective module details.

Curriculum structure

Over Years 7 – 10, there are mandatory courses to be completed. See Key Learning Area information (pg. 6).

In addition to the mandatory courses, the curriculum structure in Year 8 is designed to allow students to experience a wide range of elective subjects. In Year 8, there is a semester system. This means that all elective courses are made up of modules which last for one semester (50 hours). Students have the opportunity to study two elective modules per semester. Students cannot study the same elective subject twice. This gives them the opportunity to study four different modules over the course of the year.

Elective structure

This is an approach to curriculum organisation that allows students maximum flexibility and choice. It essentially means that the timetable is arranged in such a way as to allow students in Year 8 access to a variety of elective courses in addition to their Key Learning Areas such as English, Mathematics, Science, HSIE and PDHPE.

We believe that this system provides several advantages for our students:

- Students must be more involved in the planning and selection of their courses. This encourages them to become more responsible for their own education and potentially to better engage with their learning.
- A semester system allows students to work at their own rate, choosing courses that are appropriate to their own needs, interests and abilities.
- A semester system allows students to experience a variety of courses enabling them to make more informed decisions for their Stage 5 (Year 9 and 10) study pathway.
- A semester system actively involves students, the school and parents in the selection process.

Choosing course patterns

- In Year 8, PDHPE modules are included as part of the mandatory curriculum.
- Year 8 students will study two subjects from two elective lines per semester.
- During Term 4 in Year 7, students will nominate their top 6 preferences for elective study in Year 8. They will be allocated to their subject lines for each semester using a best fit timetabling process.
- Timetable and other organisational considerations may influence module allocation.

This booklet gives a list of proposed elective modules together with a brief description of each module.

Students will be asked to make selections based on this information during Term 4 in Year 7.

Students will be given guidance within classes about their choice of modules. They will then have the opportunity to discuss their selections with parents.

Some modules may not be offered if there are insufficient students who wish to do them. In those instances, students will be allocated a place in an alternative module by considering their other preferences.

Key Terms

One Semester

- = 20 weeks
- = 2 terms
- = half the year

Module

Modules may be 50 hours in length (one semester).

Key Learning Area

The way in which subjects are divided and grouped within the school. There are eight Key Learning Areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Human Society and its Environment (HSIE)
- Languages
- Creative Arts
- Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

Five Key Learning Areas must be studied in each year, Year 7 – 10. These are:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Human Society and its Environment
- Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

The Key Learning Areas of **Technological and Applied Studies, Creative Arts and Languages** must be studied at some time over Years 7 – 10 but need not be studied in each Year.

At Mudgee High School, the mandatory requirements in these subjects are completed in Years 7 and 8.

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)

This is a NSW government body which is responsible for:

- Curriculum development for classes from Kindergarten to Year 12 (K – 12)
- Examinations and assessment for the RoSA and the HSC.

Curriculum

All that is studied within a certain year or within the school.

Syllabus

An outline of what must be studied within each Key Learning Area, determined by NESA.

Module Codes

Aboriginal studies	ABS08
Agricultural technology	AG08
Commerce	COM08
Child studies	CD08
Computing studies	CS08
Drama	DR08
Food technology	FT08
Japanese	JA08
Music	MU08
Graphics technology	TG08
Industrial technology (electronics)	TE08
Industrial technology (wood)	TW08
Industrial technology (metal)	TM08
Textiles technology	TX08
Visual arts	VA08

Creative Arts

Drama – Music – Visual Arts

Drama

DR08 Widen Your Experience (50 hours)

Course description

Drama is an art form that surrounds us every day. It is a vital aspect of our society and helps us understand ourselves and others. In this module, students learn about the exciting world of theatre, acting and imaginative performances. Students learn the skills of characterisation, improvisation and performance through games and role plays. Students will explore different drama elements and techniques and build the foundation of Drama. It encourages a co-operative approach to exploring the world through enactment while exploring the ways people react and respond to different situations, issues and ideas.

Students learn about

- Elements of drama: role, character, focus, tension, time, place, situation, space, structure, language, sound, movement, rhythm, atmosphere and symbol.
- Dramatic forms: playbuilding, commedia dell'arte, political/protest theatre, Ancient Greek theatre, masks, melodrama and Shakespeare.
- Performance styles.
- Dramatic techniques and theatrical conventions: characterisation.

Students learn to

- Use elements and styles of theatre in performances.
- Playbuild.
- Work collectively to playbuild a piece of theatre.
- Reflect on the building process of performances.
- Incorporate contemporary themes.
- Explore different drama elements and techniques.
- Build the foundation of Drama.

Specific course requirements

A4 art book, spiral bound.

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

Transferrable skills: analytical skills, interpersonal skills, writing skills, empathy, higher order thinking, investing skills and research skills.

Career pathways that this unit leads into are: script writer, director, actor, lawyer, drama teacher, stage manager, theatrical costume and design maker, publicity agent, artist, counsellor, and film and TV editor or producer.

Music

MU08 Music (50 hours)

Course description

Students will continue to develop their skills in performing, listening and composing. There will be opportunities to develop solo skills and to work in various groups (whole class, small ensembles).

Students learn about

- How to practise effectively to develop a musical performance.
- How to use your musical skills to perform in style.
- Using the performances of others to improve their own performances.
- The concepts of music and how they are manipulated to create musical works.

Students learn to

- Perform solo and group works with increasing confidence.
- Listen with increasing understanding and skill.
- Develop musical ideas into compositions.

Specific course requirements

- eraser
- rule
- plastic sleeve for protecting sheet music.

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

Group work and collaboration, skilful listening, life-long musical appreciation, higher-order thinking.

Visual Arts

VA08 Visual Art (50 hours)

Course description

Extend on your skills and ideas for art making by signing up to this module. Sculpture, clay making, printmaking, drawing and painting are all options in this module. Creativity is the key and learning to express your ideas will be beneficial in your future studies. If you enjoyed Year 7 Art then this is another chance to taste the pure enjoyment of creating. See you there.

Students learn about

- Techniques that are specific to particular mediums.
- How good design can affect the outcome of a task.
- How art practitioners create art to reflect their world.
- How to use their Visual Art Diary as a site for recording information in a logical and creative way.

Students learn to

- Develop skills in a variety of materials.
- Follow ideas through to a completed object.
- Use the work of professional artists to extend their understanding of art practice.
- Use their Visual Art Diary to document their work.

Specific course requirements

- A4 art book (spiral-bound)
- 2B pencil
- eraser
- rule.

Course costs

\$25

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

Creative thinking and problem solving,

May lead into careers such as: illustrator, graphic designer, creative industries employment, animator or artist.

Human Society in its Environment (HSIE)

Aboriginal Studies

ABS08 Aboriginal Visual and Performing Arts (50 hours)

Course description

Aboriginal visual arts

The focus of this option is the diversity of Aboriginal visual arts. Students investigate the importance of visual arts to the survival of Aboriginal Peoples as unique groups within Australian society, and their importance in expressing the diverse senses of identity of Aboriginal Peoples. The option also explores how Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people can have differences in their conceptual understanding of the visual arts. Issues surrounding cultural appropriation, the protection of intellectual and artistic copyright, and the varying and sensitive roles of individuals, communities, and language and cultural groups in the development and expression of Aboriginal visual arts are investigated.

Aboriginal performing arts

The focus of this module is the diversity of Aboriginal performing arts including dance, music and drama. A key element of this option is the significance of performing arts to the survival of cultures and identities of Aboriginal Peoples within Australian society. Issues surrounding cultural appropriation, the protection of intellectual and artistic copyright, and the varying and sensitive roles of individuals, communities, and language and cultural groups in the development and expression of Aboriginal performing arts are investigated.

Aboriginal oral and written expression

The focus of this option is the exploration of oral and written forms of communication used by Aboriginal Peoples before and after invasion. Students focus on different forms of oral and written expression to develop an understanding of the diversity of styles and viewpoints. A key element of this option is the important contribution of these works to Aboriginal and other cultures, histories and identities.

Specific course requirements

There are no prerequisites for this module

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

This module will provide an introductory foundation for future studies in Aboriginal Studies, Society & Culture, Ancient History, Modern History and Legal Studies.

The topics in this module will potentially prepare students for a career in anthropology, archaeology, museum curatorial work, journalism and documentary construction, archivists, and a wide range of other related industries. Aboriginal Studies begins the journey to becoming a historically literate and globalised citizen.

Commerce

COM08 Global Marketing (50 hours)

Course description

This module covers Option 2 (Promoting & Selling) + Option 4 (Global Links) + Option 10 (Community Participation).

The main aim of a business is to make a profit by selling goods and services. To achieve this, businesses use a wide range of promotion methods to catch the attention of customers and hopefully make a sale. Globalisation is not a new process. Trade, exploration and the movement of people and ideas around the world have been occurring for centuries. This module is an introduction to a range of concepts in Commerce.

Students learn about

- the selling process
- targeting consumers
- applying selling techniques
- the global consumer
- the global investor
- transnational organisations
- global business
- international aid programs
- non-profit organisations
- active community participation
- goal-setting in a range of contexts
- achieving community outcomes
- current issues related to global marketing.

Students learn to

This module will provide students with an introductory foundation for future studies in Commerce, Business Studies, Legal Studies, Economics and Society & Culture.

Specific course requirements

There are no prerequisites for this module.

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

These topics will prepare you for a career in business and industry, including owning / running your own business and working in all range of businesses from small enterprises right through to multi-national companies. Commerce begins the journey to becoming a globalised consumer who is economically and financially literate.

Languages

Japanese

JP08 Foundation Japanese (50 hours)

Course description

Are you interested in learning about other countries, cultures, cuisines and customs? Do you want to give yourself an edge against your monolingual peers in any future career you choose? Are you interested in travel?

This course is designed for students who have an interest in Japanese society, culture and language. Japan is one of Australia's leading trade partners and military allies, and is an important neighbour in the Asia Pacific region. This module offers students an immersive experience of learning another language. It will build on the knowledge and skills they have acquired in their mandatory studies. Students who would like to be considered eligible for school trips to Japan are encouraged to select this course.

Students learn about

- The role of family and respect in Japanese society and language.
- Travel and safety tips relating to Japan.
- Seasonal influences and celebrations.

Students learn to

- Use Japanese to respond to everyday situations and develop a foundation of grammar and vocabulary to utilise when travelling to Japan.
- Use language to understand and respond to main ideas in spoken and written texts; study different text types; develop an appreciation of Japanese culture and its influence on the language.
- Read and write the phonetic syllabary, Hiragana and extend their knowledge of Kanji, the meaning based Chinese characters also used in Japanese writing.
- Train their brains and their memories to recall a greater range of vocabulary and language structures.

Specific course requirements

None

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

The study of Japanese contributes to the overall education of students, particularly in the areas of communication, cross-cultural understanding, literacy, general knowledge and the development of cognitive abilities. This course will provide students with an introductory foundation for future studies in Japanese.

Learning a second language will help students develop skills that will be invaluable as they move through the school and later as they join the workforce:

- higher order thinking, learning and social skills
- literacy skills
- flexible thinking skills
- greater empathy and acceptance of others
- analytical and problem-solving skills.

Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)

Agricultural Technology

AG08 Agriculture (50 hours)

Course description

This module is an introduction to agricultural enterprises. Students will explore a variety of traditional and alternative plant and animal enterprises. They will develop an understanding of the production of plants and animals for agricultural purposes. Animal husbandry and farm safety are compulsory components of this course.

Practical activities provide opportunities for students to develop specific knowledge, understanding and introductory skills related to both plant and animal enterprises.

Students learn about

- the importance of agriculture
- animal husbandry
- animal production
- plant production
- Work Health and Safety in farm situations.

Students learn to

- Describe a range of plant species and animal breeds used in agricultural enterprises.
- Implement responsible production of plant and animal products.
- Perform plant and/or animal management practices safely and in co-operation with others.
- Follow safety and hygiene instructions when using chemicals, tools and agricultural machinery in accordance with Work Health and Safety requirements.

Specific course requirements

There are no prerequisites for this module

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

The course will enable students to determine whether they wish to pursue the 100 hour course in Agriculture in Years 9 and 10, and a future in an agricultural career path.

Child Studies

CD08 Child Studies (50 hours)

Course description

Child Studies will assist students to understand the significant impact of the child's environment and the role that the child and others can take in the active construction of this environment. They will have the opportunity to reflect and think critically on the value of the cultural context and influence of ancestral and traditional practices. They will learn to identify, create and evaluate solutions to enhance child wellbeing. They will become better aware of and learn to access a range of relevant community resources and services.

Students learn about

The syllabus modules are:

- Preparing for parenthood
- Conception to birth
- Family interactions
- New-born care
- Growth and development
- Play and the developing child
- Health and safety in childhood
- Food and nutrition in childhood
- Children and culture
- Media and technology in childhood
- Aboriginal cultures and childhood
- The diverse needs of children.

Students learn to

Throughout the course, students will develop skills that enhance their ability to:

- Support a child's development from pre-conception through to and including the early years.
- Positively influence the growth, development and wellbeing of children.
- Consider the external factors that support the growth, development and wellbeing of children.
- Research, communicate and evaluate issues related to child development.

Specific course requirements

There are no prerequisites for this module

Course costs

\$15

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

Learning in Child Studies will promote in students a sense of empathy for children, their parents, caregivers and those who have the potential to influence the learning environments. It contributes to the development in young people of an understanding and appreciation of the range of ways they can positively impact on the wellbeing of children through roles in both paid and unpaid contexts.

Computing Studies

CS08 Computing Studies (50 hours)

Course description

Year 8 Computing Studies is a practical based course where students will have the opportunity to develop computational, problem solving and basic computer skills. Students will begin with a basic computer familiarisation topic, concentrating on basic skills such as typing and word processing. They will use graphics and animation tools to promote an event or issue. This could include designing and making stickers using the vinyl cutter. Students will then use the programmable **Sphero Balls** to complete challenges and solve problems.

Students learn about

- computer basics
- digital media production
- robotics and programming using Sphero Balls.

Students learn to

- use computer programs efficiently
- define the purpose of digital media
- use manipulation techniques used in digital media production
- construct and program simple robotic systems
- design, produce and evaluate solutions to defined needs.

Specific course requirements

There are no prerequisites for this course

Course costs

\$20

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

In all aspects of the course students study appropriate industry standards and work practices. Students gain an understanding of specific career opportunities related to information and software technology. Technical literacy is integral to the study of the course, preparing students with an understanding of and skills in the use of software and hardware devices. Problem-solving, workplace communication, collaborative work practices, occupational health and safety issues are embedded throughout the course.

Industrial Technology - electronics

TE08 Introductory Electronics (50 hours)

Course description

This module is an introduction to the field of Electronics. Students construct and analyse simple circuits and conduct a study of electronic processes, components and construction techniques. Instruction on electrical safety and electronic theory are compulsory components of this course.

Practical projects reflect the nature of the Electronics focus area and provide opportunities for students to develop specific knowledge, understanding and skills related to electronics-related technologies.

Students learn about

WHS and risk management, materials and components, equipment, tools and machines, techniques and electronics related industries.

Students learn to

- Use a range of components in the production of practical projects. They will use simple PCB construction methods involving the use of etchant solutions.
- Use acrylic, sheet metals, timber and timber products and 3D printing to produce circuit housings.
- Use the correct techniques in solder and desoldering components from a circuit along with the use of multimeters to test circuits and components.

Specific course requirements

None

Course costs

\$40

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

The course will enable students to determine whether they wish to pursue the 100 hour course in Electronics in years 9 and 10.

Food Technology

FT08 Food Technology (50 hours)

Course description

Students will learn to recognise the importance of hygienic handling of food when producing safe and appealing products. They will list the basic components of a variety of foods and describe changes, which occur during processing, preparation and storage of food. Students will relate the nutritional value of foods to health and identify the factors that influence food habits.

This is an introductory unit that allows students to grasp the basics of cooking. The foundational skills developed here will be built upon in further studies in Food Technology.

Students learn about

- Preparing food safely and hygienically.
- Using a variety of cooking methods and techniques.
- Cooking with a wide range of ingredients.
- Basic nutrition.

Students learn to

Students will learn to cook a variety of different dishes and utilise a range of ingredients and cooking methods to produce healthy food products. These skills will enable students to develop the ability and confidence to design, produce and evaluate solutions to situations involving food.

Specific course requirements

Personal Protective Equipment. This includes:

- fully enclosed, leather, vinyl or suede shoes
- 2 x tea towels
- apron
- oven mitts
- container for food products made in practical lessons
- a workbook and normal, expected writing equipment for theory lessons.

Course costs

\$50 per semester

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

A great introduction into the world of culinary art, and a great grounding for future studies in food technology and hospitality.

Graphics Technology

TG08 Graphics Technology 1 (50 hours)

Course description

Students are introduced to standard drawing practice and skills. Students complete a series of practical exercises supported by drawing theory on the materials and equipment used in class. These principles and techniques will be applied to the development of mechanical, engineering, architectural and product drawings. The program also introduces students to the concept of Computer Aided Drawing (CAD).

Students learn about

- graphics principles and techniques
- work practices
- equipment type, care and use
- clean and ordered work practices
- how to apply planned and ordered approaches to producing drawings
- Australian and international drafting standards.

Students learn to

- apply drafting conventions to create standard page layouts (e.g. paper size, borders, title blocks, projection symbols)
- computing principles CAD application
- the CAD environment.

Specific course requirements

Students wishing to follow Technology Graphics electives in stage 5 are advised to complete this module as an introduction to Graphics.

Course costs

Nil

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

Graphics is a key communication skill in technology throughout the world and is used in many areas of employment. The practical skills gained in this course can be of benefit in many other subjects, as well as having vocational applications.

Industrial Technology - metal

TM08 Metal Workshop Skills (50 hours)

Course description

Students will be introduced to Workshop practices, hand tool skills and elementary machine operations. The course provides an introduction to metal machining and fabrication methods, as well as the use of essential power tools. Students complete a series of practical exercises and theory on the materials and equipment used in class.

Students learn about

- WHS and risk management
- materials and components
- equipment
- tools and machines
- techniques
- metal related industries.

Students learn to

- Safely use tools, materials and equipment.
- Adjust and use hand tools in the production of practical projects.
- Use machines and portable power tools in the production of practical projects.
- Apply correct measuring standards and methods.
- Measure and mark out metal projects from a workshop drawing.
- Accurately cut and prepare materials to size use a variety of joining methods.

Specific course requirements

Personal Protective Equipment. This includes:

- fully enclosed, leather, vinyl or suede shoes

Course costs

\$40

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

These courses will enable students to ascertain if they wish to pursue the 100 hour courses in Industrial Technology Metal in years 9 and 10.

Industrial Technology – timber

TW08 Introductory Wood Skills/Toy Making (50 hours)

Course description

The wood skills component will involve workshop practices and hand tool skills. Students complete a series of practical exercises supported by theory on the materials and equipment used in class.

The toy-making component will develop design skills and technical knowledge related to design and construction. This component will involve safety instruction in the use of hand tools and power tools. The module also provides students with the opportunity to develop wooden toys that use simple engineering principles for operation.

Students wishing to select wood working modules are advised to complete this module as early as possible.

Students learn about

- WHS and risk management
- materials and Components
- equipment
- tools and machines
- techniques
- timber related industries.

Students learn to

- Safely use tools, materials and equipment.
- Consider basic timber working characteristics and use solid timbers in the production of practical projects.
- Adjust and use hand tools in the production of practical projects.
- Use machines and portable power tools in the production of practical projects.
- Apply correct measuring standards and methods.
- Measure and mark out timber projects from a workshop drawing.
- Accurately cut and prepare materials to size.
- Use a variety of joining methods including: Simple joints, screwing, nailing and gluing.
- Describe reasons for timber finishing.
- Prepare surfaces and apply clear finishes to timber.

Specific course requirements

Personal Protective Equipment. This includes:

- fully enclosed, leather, vinyl or suede shoes

Course costs

\$40

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

These courses will enable students to ascertain if they wish to pursue the 100 hour courses in Industrial Technology Timber in years 9 and 10.

Textiles Technology

TX08 Textiles and Design (50 hours)

Course description

This is an introductory unit that allows students to grasp the basics of good sewing. Initially the students will learn the process of fabric dyeing and tie dye their own fabric for use in future projects. They will follow a simple pattern to produce boxer shorts from their dyed fabric. To complete a set of 'funky pyjamas' the students will have the opportunity to dye a singlet or tee shirt to match their shorts and make a draw string bag to carry these items.

Students learn about

Students will learn about textiles through project work. This will enable them to discriminate in their choices of textiles for particular uses. The focus area of apparel will be the context through which the three areas of study Design, Properties and Performance of Textiles, Textiles and Society are covered.

Students learn to

- Use the creative process to design textile items. Design ideas and experiences are documented and communicated and will show evidence of each of the stages of designing, producing and evaluating.
- Select, use and manipulate appropriate materials, equipment and techniques to produce quality textile projects.
- Safely operate the sewing machine and other relevant equipment.
- Students will learn to identify the properties and performance of textiles.

Specific course requirements

This is an introductory unit that allows students to grasp the basics of good sewing. Initially the students will learn the process of fabric dyeing and tie dye their own fabric for use in future projects. They will follow a simple pattern to produce boxer shorts from their dyed fabric. To complete a set of 'funky pajamas' the students will have the opportunity to dye a singlet or tee shirt to match their shorts and make a draw string bag to carry these items.

Course costs

Project work includes producing a pair of boxer shorts and a draw string bag.

Materials kit – Cost \$15

Career relevance / Pathways / Transferable skills

This course will enable students to ascertain if they wish to pursue the 100 hour courses in Textiles Technology in years 9 and 10.