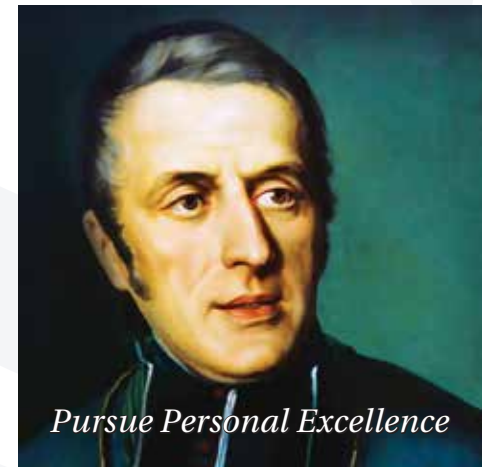




MAZENOD
COLLEGE



OPTIONS SELECTION INFORMATION FOR YEAR 9, 2019

Introduction

In Year 9, all students study English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Religious Education and Physical and Health Education as part of their curriculum.

In conjunction with these subjects, students are able to choose option subjects. Option subjects provide students with the opportunity to develop their talents in a wide variety of areas.

In Year 9, students can choose new options or build on their experiences from Year 8.

Students are encouraged to choose a wide range of options to broaden their experience.

The choice of option subjects needs to take into account the student's ability, skills and interests.



OPTIONS SELECTION PROCESS

Option selections are completed online.

By the end of Week 5 of Term 3, parents will receive an email providing the details required for making selections.

Please bear in mind that these are the possible combinations of majors and minors that students can do in Year 9:

6 minors (6 different subjects)

4 minors and 1 major (5 different subjects)

2 minors and 2 majors (4 different subjects)

3 majors (3 different subjects)

The following pages outline the option subjects available along with a brief description to assist with understanding what each option involves.

	MAJORS (Whole year subjects)		MINORS (1 semester subjects)
	Art		Art
	Commerce		Commerce
	Computer Programming		Computer Programming
	Design		Design
	Digital Technology		Digital Art
	Drama		Digital Technology
	Electronic Engineering		Drama
	Italian		Electronic Engineering
	Media Studies		Gifted and Talented
	Metalwork		Italian
	Music Technology		Media Studies
	Specialist Band Program		Metalwork
	Woodwork		Music Technology
			Outdoor Ed
			Specialised PE
			Specialist Science Program
			Woodwork



Specialist Programs

Specialist Programs are offered in Music, Science, and Gifted and Talented. Entry into these programs is selective and is based on achievement, aptitude and/or by audition.

Specialist Band

Students in the Specialist Band Program in Year 8 are expected to continue into Year 9. Questions regarding this program can be directed to [Mr Graham](#).

Specialist Science

Offers for a place in the Specialist Science Program will be sent to parents before the end of Week 5 of Term 3. Questions regarding the Specialist Science Program can be directed to [Mr Johnson](#).

Gifted and Talented

Students who select the Gifted and Talented Program will be contacted to confirm their place in the program. Questions regarding the Gifted and Talented Program can be directed to [Mrs Nelson](#).

Majors and Minors

Major options are year-long courses while minor options are semester long courses.



Option Descriptions

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

Specialist Band Program (Major)

This is the College's most prestigious music scholarship program, offered to 35 to 40 of our most dedicated and determined music students. All students selected will not necessarily have had previous music experience, but must demonstrate a willingness to learn and have a strong commitment to practice. This is a two year scholarship, beginning as a bursary in their first year followed with a full scholarship in Year 9. The students selected will be given an instrument, be provided with individual tuition and a structured music program with at least 4 group performance opportunities.

Selection into this prestigious program is determined in Year 7 and students are committed to the two years under the tutelage of our expert music staff. During the first year students will become increasingly familiar with their instruments learning correct posture, embouchure, major/minor scales and instrument care and maintenance. Understanding one's place within a larger ensemble and being able to play under a Band Conductor are a key focus for this first year. 'Stage 1 Preliminary Orchestral' music is the level of the musical arrangements to be learnt, with 'dynamics' and 'timing' as the key focus elements of performance. Theoretical lessons will develop both musical understanding and knowledge of music notation and an historical analysis of their chosen instrument will also form part of the students' development.



Specialist Science Program (Minor)

The Year 9 Science Specialist Program is offered to students who have displayed an above average aptitude for Science and received consistently high results in assessments throughout Year 8. It is designed to allow the students to apply their knowledge and explore their interests through extended Open Investigations and general experimentation. This is a hands on, fun and rewarding option.

Gifted & Talented Program (Minor)

The Year 9 Gifted & Talented Program is an exciting opportunity for students who want to go beyond their everyday learning to engage with Big Ideas that challenge them intellectually and creatively. The program is complementary to the Specialist Science Program, which means that students can do both the Gifted & Talented and Specialist Science Programs.

The program is for one-semester and is tailored specifically to extend and challenge each student's ability and to develop their critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students in this program will be given opportunities to compete against other schools in competitions that allow them to engage with other like-minded students.

The semester will culminate in students showcasing personally and collaboratively developed big ideas projects for parents and the College community.

If you think this is for you, feel free to select it and Mrs Nelson will catch up with you.



Art (Major/Minor)

This subject builds upon the skills acquired in Year 8 and aims to extend students who have demonstrated a sincere competence in the visual arts. Both the 'major' and 'minor' courses cover a variety of themes and students are encouraged to make personal responses to their environment, social and physical, using a variety of media.

A wide range of art genres are covered including ceramics, printmaking, digital graphics, painting and sculpture. Different Art History themes are studied to foster an appreciation of the arts and to generate creative thinking. Drawing becomes an emphasis both as a studio project itself and in preparation for other studio areas.

Using imagery from skateboard, gaming, sport and music cultures, students are encouraged to respond creatively to develop original designs using a variety of media, including spray paint and silk-screening.

Each practical project is devised to further develop the students understanding of the elements and principles of Art and Design and is reinforced with practical homework activities in their sketch book. Analysis of artworks also adds to the theoretical content of this course.



Commerce (Major/Minor)

During this course students will experience being an entrepreneur, and gain an in-depth understanding of business concepts and finance. Topics include: Investments and the Share Market, Inventions, Valuing businesses, Bank lending practices (assessing a loan application), Introduction to Contract Law and Consumer Protection, Marketing, Business Record Keeping, Income Tax and Financial Modelling. Students will participate in competitions including: The ASX Schools Share-market Game, Visa's Financial Football, The West Australian Newspaper's Design an Ad contest and the Bank of Queensland ESSI Money Challenge. Students should develop entrepreneurial and financial life-skills, and become proficient users of Excel, Word, and Publisher.

Italian (Major/Minor)

This course builds on ideas, vocabulary and basic grammar structures acquired in Year 8 and is designed to provide students with the necessary skills to communicate at an elementary level with native speakers in both written and spoken exchanges. Students who choose to study Italian in Year 9 will deal with various topics and emphasis is placed on a wide range of practical activities including role-plays and games. The cultural and background content is further encouraged through multi-media, audio-visual programmes and excursions and incursions.



Computer Programing (Major/Minor)

The Computer Programing course allows students to develop knowledge, understanding and fundamental programing skills integral in the 21st Century. As the use of digital technology in our lives increases, it is a valuable skill to be able to interact with and create programs for devices such as computers, smart phones and future technologies. See www.code.org for more information about why learning to code is important. Throughout the course, students explore several programming platforms as well as participating in a national computer science competition. They will develop their design skills using multimedia applications as they create the user experience and interface of digital systems.

During the year students will start to move beyond visual programing languages to start implementing solutions using Python, JavaScript and other programing languages. Students will continue to develop skills implementing and using databases and learning the skills to explore the Computer Science discipline further.

Others areas that will be explored during the year include Robotics, Security and Digital Citizenship. Providing students with real world problems to create solutions will give them opportunities to implement their understanding in this field

Design (Major/Minor)

This course is designed to further expand the knowledge and skills learnt in Year 8. Students revisit Computer Aided Design through a number of different software applications such as Autodesk Inventor, ArchiCAD, and 2D Design to design their own products and design solutions. Students will then test their designs through manufacture by making use of 3D printers, 3-D Modelling and VR software, and Laser Cutters.

Emphasis is placed on the technical correctness of drawings together with the overall visual impact as a graphic communication of a solution to a drawing problem.





Digital Art (Minor)

Working exclusively in the digital realm and using WACOM tablets, this course will develop skills in using Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Animate and Adobe Illustrator. As an introductory course, students are not required to have prior experience or knowledge of this software, but should be prepared to learn basic skills before extending into digital projects where creativity and independent thinking is encouraged.

Projects including Rotoscoping, Augmented Reality (AR), Digital Character Design, Animation and Photo-manipulation will provide the students an opportunity to learn the accepted practices and ideas used by contemporary Graphic Designers and Digital Artists. Students will manipulate the different software and set up digital work platforms that would be acceptable at industry level. Collating a digital portfolio of work samples will provide a record of the students development in this course.

Please note that students are not able to complete a Major in Art and a Minor in Digital Art



Digital Technology (Major/Minor)

In Year 9, learning in Digital Technologies focuses on engaging students with specialised learning in preparation for vocational training or learning in the senior secondary years. Students have opportunities to analyse problems and design, implement and evaluate a range of solutions. This course allows the students to practice and consolidate skills in the practical aspects of ICT such as graphic image manipulation, web site design, programing, audio/video editing, and animation. Students will use a variety of software applications and tools that enable the interactive use of text, audio, still images, video, graphics and music.

The new Digital Technologies Curriculum allows students to explore methods to create creative multimedia solutions for problems students may face in and outside of the school setting. There will be an element of programing, networking and databases in the Information Technology course but we will focus on multimedia solutions.



Drama (Major/Minor)

The Year 9 Drama program is available to all students interested in developing their confidence and skills as a performer. The class work incorporates a variety of practical performances including Variety Nights, Catholic Schools Performing Arts Festival and the creation of student devised work.

The students broaden their understanding of acting by studying various dramatic styles such as Melodrama, Elizabethan Theatre and Improvisation. There is also a theory component included in the Year 9 Drama course, including reflection and analysis of their own work, and other viewed works.

Students wishing to study Drama in Years 10 – 12 should also choose to study Drama in Year 9.



Electronic Engineering (Major/Minor)

The content and assessment of this course is divided between theory and practical work. Students need no prerequisites and most should cope with the mathematical theory concepts that are included in the course. Theory in the course includes electrical safety, basic electronic principles, understanding and recognition of components, calculations in resistance, capacitance and simple circuit laws. Students will also program simple electronic and robotic devices to perform specific functions.

Students investigate needs, opportunities and problems that are defined in a design brief. They devise a solution that considers factors such as function, environment, materials, components and parts. As part of this process students will be introduced to elements of design and the use of Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) programs. Practical work involves the construction of integrated circuitry on manufactured printed circuit boards.

Media Studies (Major/Minor)

Year 9 Media students have opportunities to view both contemporary and past media works with a focus on viewpoints. Through this unit students will consider the way contexts, trends and audiences impact both Australian and international media works. They will explore both Media Fiction (for example, TV fiction) and Media Non-Fiction (for example, documentaries) and partake in practical hands on tasks.

For all projects, the students are expected to keep a journal outlining their ideas, processes, analysis and reflections. Year 9 Media students will extend and refine their teamwork and problem-solving skills, follow timelines and are encouraged to adopt safe working policies to encourage respectful use of media equipment.





Metalwork (Major/Minor)

This subject follows on from the skills that were taught in Year 8 and are designed to encourage and broaden the students' knowledge of metalworking practices and processes. Students are encouraged to develop design and problem-solving skills. The course also expands their knowledge of machine tools and specialised metalworking equipment as well as developing an understanding of visual and working drawings and the use of basic computer aided drafting (CAD). It introduces students to a range of hand tools and promotes safe working practices. Safety will underpin all teaching and learning experiences.



Music Technology (Major/Minor)

The Year 9 Class Music program incorporates the use of music technology, practical performance in ensembles, composition tasks, and some written theory. The students broaden their understanding of music by studying various musical styles throughout the year. Students wishing to study Music in Years 10-12 should also choose to study Music in Year 9.

Project assessments include composing music to media, remixing, individual and group performances, and developing music industry vocational skills. Students will utilise software such as Mixcraft, Ableton Live and Logic Pro. This course is designed to give students an insight into vocational elements of the music industry.

Due to the performance aspect of this course, it is preferred that students who take this option also learn a musical instrument, either privately or through the College.



Outdoor Ed (Minor)

The initial emphasis in this one semester course is on the principles of leave-no-trace and on risk management. From that point on there is a mixture of theory and practical lessons in each cycle.

Theory component: Students relate to aspects of the seven leave-no-trace principles and how they can inform practise in the outdoors. In particular we consider the first principle, Plan Ahead and Prepare. Students look at simple risk management strategies, learn the common first aid skills and hygiene considerations needed in the outdoors, develop equipment lists and consider how climate and weather can affect their outdoor activities. Students also prepare a report on a famous walking trail.

Practical component: The students relate to the Plan Ahead and Prepare principle and train for their hiking expedition. This training generally consists of swimming and walks in the area of the College to develop their core strength. The students also learn and practice camp cooking, setting up shelters (tents and hootchies), knot tying and packing rucksacks.

Please note there is a limited number of places offered in Outdoor Education for logistical and safety reasons. Selection criteria will be based on suitability to the subject and recommendations from classroom teachers and the Head of the Health & Physical Education Department.

Specialised PE (Minor)

This course is offered to students who enjoy HPE and want to further develop their skills and strategies. A variety of sports are covered, with striking sports being the focus in the first term.

Students are given the opportunity to improve their skills and understanding of the methods to improve performance. In Term Two a combination of invasion/evasion sports are explored, and the ability to transfer tactics and strategies from one context to the next is a major focus.





Woodwork (Major/Minor)

The main aim of these subjects is to further develop the skills and working practices learnt in Year 8 and to prepare students for the more individual and independent project organisation expected in Year 10.

Students are encouraged to develop design and problem-solving skills. The course also expands their knowledge of various machines and specialised woodworking equipment as well as developing an understanding of visual and working drawings and the use of basic computer aided drafting (CAD).

Students are introduced to a range of hand tools and safe working practices are strongly promoted. Students in this course will become skilled in the safe use of basic tools and a limited range of woodworking machines. Safety will underpin all teaching and learning experiences.