



VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies 2024 Course Outline



Teacher: Ken Berry

Biblical Perspective

Outdoor and Environmental Studies aims to guide students to see God's creation as something we are called to steward and celebrate. Students study theoretical concepts in the classroom and connect these themes to God's creation on two amazing four-day camps. Students are expected to be active contributors during class and group activities in and out of the classroom so they are able to use and develop the gifts that God has given them.

Purpose statement

The purpose of Outdoor and Environmental studies is to develop student knowledge, skills and attributes that lead to self-development and environmental awareness.







Satisfactory completion

In order to pass Unit 1 & 2, students must obtain a minimum of 50% across eight Student Assessed Coursework (SAC) tasks and two exams, spread throughout the school year. To pass Unit 3 & 4, students complete eight SAC tasks and must achieve a minimum of 50%. They also sit an exam through the VCAA, which is externally graded. The combination of these eight Sacs' and this exam make up the study score for this subject.

Unit 1 Exploring Outdoor Experiences

Area of Study 1: Motivations for Outdoor Experiences

- Uses and meanings of common terms
- Types of outdoor environments
- Motivations for seeking outdoor experiences
- Personal responses to outdoor environments
- Knowing, experiencing and responding to outdoor environments
- Knowing outdoor environments
- Safe participation in outdoor environments

Area of Study 2: Influences on Outdoor Experiences

- The influence of media portrayals on personal responses to outdoor environments
- Codes of conduct
- Planning interactions with outdoor environments
- Factor that affect out outdoor experiences
- Technologies used in outdoor environments
- Risk in outdoor experiences

Unit 2 Discovering Outdoor Environments

Area of Study 1: Investigating Outdoor Environments

- Characteristics of different outdoor environments
- Recreational users' understandings of specific outdoor environments
- Scientific understandings of outdoor environments
- Land managers' understandings of specific outdoor environments
- Artistic, Indigenous Australian and historical understandings of specific outdoor environments

Area of Study 2: Impacts on Outdoor Environments

- Human activities and their impacts
- Conservation activities

- Commercial activities
- Recreational activities
- Community-based environmental action
- Impacts of technology on outdoor environments
- Impacts of urbanisation

Unit 3 Relationships with outdoor environments

Area of Study 1: Historical relationships with outdoor environments

- Australia's environment before human habitation
- How different groups of people relate to Australia and how these relationships have changed over time.
- The foundation and role of environmental movements
- The impact of increasing environmental awareness in Australia

Area of Study 2: Relationships with Australian environments since 1990

- Ways that we interact with outdoor environments
- Influences that affect our interactions (technology, commercialisation, society's portrayal and concepts of risk)
- Social debates over climate change, water management and renewable energy
- Environmental politics and policies in Australia

Unit 4 Sustainable outdoor relationships

Area of Study 1: Healthy outdoor environments

- Understand and critique sustainable development
- Observable characteristics of healthy environments
- The state of Australia's environment report
- Importance of healthy outdoor environments
- Impacts on society of land degradation, urbanisation, climate change and introduced species

Area of Study 2: Sustainable outdoor environments

- Conflicts over the use of Australian land
- Methods used to influence decision makers
- Management strategies to support sustainability
- Acts and conventions to protect environments
- Actions undertaken to sustain outdoor environments