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Reminder: VTAC Change of Preference

A further reminder to all Year 12 students who made timely applications to VTAC that you can make changes to your preferences up until THIS Friday 24 October 2014 at 5.00pm. After that you will not be able to access your preferences until Monday 24 November 2014. The VTAC website is VTAC.

What if you think you won’t get a place at university?
There are many alternatives. Some suggestions are:
- Contact your Career Practitioner
- Apply for a related TAFE course if you have not done so already
- Apply for a course at Monash College or MIBT (see VTAC Guide)
- Complete a Diploma in Tertiary or Foundation Studies – e.g. at Monash University, RMIT and Victoria University
- Nursing - complete a Diploma of Nursing at TAFE
- Try for a Negotiated Offer in January (see VTAC website)
- Aim for a Supplementary Offer in January (see VTAC website)

Diploma of Applied Fashion Design & Technology
The Diploma of Applied Fashion Design and Technology is a one-year program that focuses on developing technical skills in patternmaking, garment construction and design, including CAD. The program is delivered in 40 weeks and followed up with a 10 week industry placement. Students learn how to analyse colour, style and fabric requirements to satisfy a design brief and plan for production, based on current industry standards. The course serves as an excellent pathway qualification into two premier Fashion degree programs offered at Box Hill Institute - the Bachelor of Fashion and the Bachelor of Fashion Merchandising. Find out more at Applied Fashion Design

Georgina Hope Rinehart Excellence Scholarship
The Georgina Hope Rinehart Excellence Scholarship is targeted at high performance swimming scholars offering a full-fee scholarship plus $21,000 living expenses for students to compete at an elite level while gaining an education at Bond University. This scholarship is open to students who are eligible to compete for Australia; are swimming at a very high level for their school or club; have a high academic record, and who possess leadership qualities. Applications for this scholarship are currently open and close on 30 October 2014. Visit Bond Scholarship.
News from Monash University

- **Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTs)**

The **Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTs)** is designed as an alternative pathway to university study. The program is particularly suited to students requiring additional learning support in their first year of study. The DoTs pathway equips students with the skills to write essays, undertake research, solve problems, think critically, develop projects, and communicate their ideas more effectively. This pathway opportunity is offered at the Peninsula campus and the Berwick campus of Monash University. Providing a direct pathway to Monash University, successful completion of DoTs allows students to apply to progress to the second year of over 30 Monash University degrees. Students will have the flexibility to choose a stream that interests them from Arts, Business, Education or Nursing. It is this stream that forms the first year of their degree, and determines which Monash degree they can pathway into.

The advantages of the DoTs pathway:
- it’s a pathway into the second year of your chosen degree
- it’s an opportunity to explore academic options if you are uncertain about future career directions

**Entry requirements**

To be considered for entry, applicants must have successfully completed the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), or equivalent, and have attained a minimum English score of 25 (or 30 in EAL) and a minimum ATAR score of 50. Depending on the DoTs stream, there may be additional pre-requisites. Visit DoTs to find out more!

- **Business and Economics**

1+1 doesn’t always = 2! Everybody knows one plus one equals two. But, when we’re talking about a double degree at Monash, the maths is even simpler.

A standard bachelor degree is three years, but in most cases students can graduate from a double degree in four years. Combining a Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Business or Bachelor of Economics with another degree, opens up a world of possibilities. Students can study a language, a second profession, a completely different area of business, or other areas they may be interested in, such as engineering, medicine, arts, law, and more.

*So how does it work?* All Monash courses include compulsory core units (which students must do) and electives (which students can choose based on their interests). In a double degree, the compulsory units in one degree make up the electives in the other, and vice versa. So students will still study the core units to complete each course, but the units they study will count towards both degrees.

Monash offers combined degrees across all faculties and disciplines. Some examples of popular combinations include Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Engineering; Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce; and Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Business.

For more information on the double degree offerings visit Business & Economics
**ACUcom at the Australian Catholic University**

**ACUcom** is a department of the Australian Catholic University that delivers TAFE-level courses. These courses are complete qualifications but are also pathway programs into bachelor degrees at ACU. While the pathways are not guarantees, students who do well in the **ACUcom** courses are usually offered places in relevant bachelor programs.

**ACUcom** courses are suited to students who –

- Want a TAFE level qualification
- Do not get the required ATAR to go straight into their chosen bachelor degree
- Want to use the TAFE to university pathway to a bachelor degree
- Want to try an area of study but are not sure they want to commit to a 3-year course

**ACUcom** offers three courses suitable for school leavers:

- **Diploma of Nursing** – (Pathway into Bachelor of Nursing)
- **Certificate in Exercise Science** – (Pathway into Bachelor of Exercise Science)
- **Certificate III in Educational Support** – (Pathway into Bachelor of Education)

For more information on these courses, the cost and how to apply email acucom.melbourne@acu.edu.au or call (03) 9953 3321.

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**Diploma Screen and Media (Radio and Television)**

The **Diploma Screen and Media (Radio and Television)** is a practical introduction to radio and television presenting, and a pathway for students to try their hand at media production. In summary –

- This is a one-year course based at the Chadstone Campus
- Students produce a magazine style show for Channel 31 called HIT TV
- Students produce radio shows in the Holmesglen Radio Studio
- This is a highly practical course offering experience both on air and behind the scenes

Pathways for graduates include -

- Advanced Diploma in Radio at Australian Film Television and Radio School
- Bachelor of Screen at Holmesglen Institute (Waverley Campus)
- Bachelor of Media or Film at Deakin University, RMIT, Swinburne and La Trobe University
- Entry level employment via industry work placements

For more information visit **Diploma Screen and Media (Radio & Television)**
News from Victoria University

- **New Bachelor of Commerce (Applied Finance) in 2015**
  
  Are you interested in finance? The new Bachelor of Commerce (Applied Finance) to be offered at the City Flinders Campus could be the ideal course! The course gives students the opportunity of undertaking an overseas study tour, industry placements, workplace-based projects with authentic case-based scenarios, and the opportunity to take part in a mentoring program. The VCE prerequisite studies are Units 3 and 4: study score of at least 25 in English (any); and 30 in Further Maths or 25 in Methods and Specialist Maths, and it is anticipated that the clearly-in ATAR will be around 75. Find out more by visiting [Applied Finance](#).

- **Bachelor of Youth Work**
  Youth Workers make a difference in young people’s lives! Graduates of Youth Work at VU gain employment in a wide range of jobs including juvenile justice, housing, local government, community recreation, outdoor education, drug & alcohol services, and alternative education programs. Find out more about this course at [Youth Work](#).

News from the University of Melbourne

- **Pre-Vet Club**
  If you are interested in becoming a veterinarian, or want to explore what it is to be a veterinarian, then the Pre-Vet Club is for you! Once enrolled in a Science degree at a university, and if intending studying post graduate veterinary science, students are invited to join the Pre-Vet Club. Visit [Pre-Vet Club](#).

- **Pathway to Veterinary Science**
  Students often ask if Bachelor of Agriculture is a pathway option to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM). The answer is yes! Students who complete a major in Production Animal Health in their Bachelor of Agriculture degree can receive credit for up to 30 per cent of the first year of the four-year DVM. A study plan for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine can be found at [Study Plan](#).
  This, and other pathways to studying Veterinary Medicine at Melbourne can be found at [Pathways to Veterinary Medicine](#).

- **Diploma of General Studies**
  Your pathway into a degree at the University of Melbourne! The Diploma in General Studies is available to CSP students and provides a guaranteed entry into a University of Melbourne degree based on graded average scores. Full-time students undertake four subjects per semester for two semesters; part-time students undertake two subjects per semester for four semesters. There are two semesters each year. All students must complete the compulsory subject Academic writing and communication in their first semester. Completion of the Diploma in General Studies gives students guaranteed entry into the Bachelors of Agriculture, Science, Environments, Commerce and Biomedicine at the University of Melbourne. The Diploma of General Studies is a one-year full time course offered at Melbourne’s Dookie Campus. To find out more visit [Diploma of General Studies](#).
**Science Experience 2015**

RMIT’s **Science Experience** is three fun-filled days of hands-on practical activities for students entering Year 10 in 2015. This very popular school holiday program allows Australia’s next generation of curious scientists to go behind the scenes and sample the exhilarating world of science and technology. Students will perform experiments, participate in field trips, attend university lectures and experience three days of student life on campus.

**Date:** Tuesday 20 January – Thursday 22 January  
**Audience:** Students entering Year 10 in 2015  
**Cost:** $115

For further information and to register visit [Science Experience](#) and/or [Science Experience - RMIT](#)

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**University Terms**

When students are looking into university study, they often come across words or terms they are unfamiliar with. So, here are a few of the more commonly used terms to help students understand what is being talked about!

**Associated Degree** - an associate degree is generally a two-year qualification that is made up of two-thirds of a bachelor degree, and may be offered by both TAFEs and universities. Students often use this as a stepping stone to the full Bachelor Degree.

**Assumed knowledge** – refers to subjects the university recommends or prefers a student to have studied at school before starting the course

**ATAR** – Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank – the figure used by UAC and VTAC to calculate the entrance ranking for a university course

**Bachelor Degree** – the award/qualification a student gains when they have completed studies in an undergraduate course, which takes between 3 or 4 years of full-time study. This is the traditional starting point of a university qualification.

**Bridging Course** – an introductory course to help students achieve the preferred entry level to a degree, e.g. a bridging maths course for students who do not have the preferred maths but need it to access a course

**Census Date** – the last day a student can withdraw from their university course and not owe fees

**Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP)** – a student’s enrolment in a university degree for which the Commonwealth government makes a contribution towards the cost of that student’s education (formerly known as a HECS place)

**Credit** – if a student has previously studied – perhaps at TAFE – and has Recognised Prior Learning (RPL), the student may be able to receive credit for a subject or subjects in their course. Also often referred to as **Advanced Standing**.

**Double degree** – a student can choose to complete a double degree – this integrates studies in two degrees resulting in an award of two degrees, usually after a minimum of 4 years of study. Often also referred to as **Combined Degrees**.
Defer – a student may choose to delay starting their course. Deferring an offer of a place might mean delaying for 6, 12, 18 or 24 months. Deferment ensures the student is guaranteed their place in their selected course.

Elective – a subject that is not core to the degree and is often from another faculty, e.g. a commerce student might choose psychology (from the Arts Faculty) as an elective.

Faculty – a department within a university devoted to a particular area of study – so, Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Science.

HECS-HELP – a loan scheme that assists students with a CSP place to pay their contribution. Students may choose to pay their fees upfront and receive a 10% discount, or choose to defer payment via the HECS-HELP loan scheme.

Honours – many Bachelor degrees offer a fourth year – called an Honours year. The Honours year allows students to further focus on a particular area of interest. The Honours year can either be integrated into a 4-year Bachelor degree or be offered as a separate year after completion of a 3-year Bachelor degree.

Lecture – a period of teaching given by a lecturer to a large group of students in a lecture theatre; can often be as many as 300 students in a lecture.

Major study – an area within a course that allows in-depth study in a particular field. More than one major may be allowed in some courses.

Minor study – a grouping of subjects allowing a broader understanding of a few subjects, with less emphasis on in-depth study.

Prerequisite – a set of conditions – usually a completion of a subject – that must be met before enrollment in a subject or course is allowed.

Transcript – this is the university academic record each student receives, like a school report.

Tutorial – a period of teaching given to a small group of students – involving discussion and participation.

UAC – Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) – all students wishing to study at universities in ACT and NSW must apply online through UAC.

Undergraduate – a student studying at university for a first level degree, e.g. a Bachelor degree.

VTAC – Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) – all students wishing to study at universities Victoria must apply online through VTAC.

Workplace learning – practical training in a workplace, such as internships or practical work experience. This is a hands-on experience – some universities call it Industry Based Learning or Work Integrated Learning.