

Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

22 December 2016

Senior secondary

Number: 090/16

Senior syllabus redevelopment update

Purpose

To provide an update on the redevelopment of senior syllabuses in preparation for the new senior assessment system to be implemented with Year 11 students from 2019.

Background

To support the introduction of the new senior assessment system, the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) has commenced the redevelopment of the current suite of senior subject syllabuses.

Throughout 2016, the QCAA has worked in close collaboration with teachers, the schooling sectors and our other education partners to make significant progress in the redevelopment of over 50 syllabuses. We are on track for the commencement of the new system of senior assessment with Year 11 students in 2019.

Information

At its 14 December 2016 meeting, the QCAA Board decided to conduct further work on the following group of syllabuses to support their delivery in a composite class setting using what is currently known as the Year A/Year B model:

Essential English*	Legal Studies
Essential Mathematics*	Physical Education
Specialist Mathematics	Design
Biology	Dance
Physics	Drama
Agricultural Science	Film, Television and New Media
Psychology	Music
Economics	Visual Arts
Ancient History	German
Modern History	Japanese
Geography	

* Please note that the status of Essential English and Essential Mathematics as General subjects has not yet been finalised.

This decision recognises the importance of responding to the particular needs of schools to implement the new system of senior assessment, especially their capacity to maintain a sufficiently broad curriculum to prepare students for a variety of post-school pathways.

We anticipate that the remaining syllabuses will be progressively approved and released during Semester 1, 2017.

The QCAA's extensive program of professional development to support implementation of new syllabuses planned for Semester 2, 2017 will commence as scheduled. We remain confident that there will be sufficient time for teachers to become familiar with the new syllabuses prior to attending professional development in their subjects.

In the week before classes commence in 2017, the QCAA will provide schools with more information on the redevelopment process, including a revised schedule, and plans for the professional development program.

The second drafts of the Stage 2 syllabuses will be released for consultation and feedback from 16 January to 10 February 2017. Please visit the QCAA website for further details: www.qcaa.qld.edu.au.

What you need to do

Please note the update on the senior syllabus redevelopment process and bring this memo to the attention of your school community.

Finding out more

Please email Paul Ould (Assistant Director, Review and Transition Branch) at paul.ould@qcaa.qld.edu.au or phone 3864 0310.

Chris Rider
Chief Executive Officer