Middle School

In 2016, **Year 7 and Year 9 students** will undertake a separate semester of Geography as a **core subject** based on the Australian Geography Curriculum.

**Year 8** students are offered a **one semester elective** of Australian Curriculum Geography.

Senior School

**Year 10**: A one semester elective based on the Australian Geography Curriculum.

**Year 11**: A one or two semester elective of SACE Stage 1 Geography.

**Year 12**: Not available in 2017. A full year elective of Stage 2 Geography will be offered in 2018.

**Year 7 GEOGRAPHY - One Semester - Core Subject**

There are two units of study in the Year 7 Geography curriculum: **Water in the world** and **Place and liveability**.

**Water in the world** focuses on water as an example of a renewable environmental resource.

This unit examines the many uses of water, the ways it is perceived and valued, its different forms as a resource, the ways it connects places as it moves through the environment, its varying availability in time and across space, and its scarcity.

Water in the world develops students’ understanding of the concept of environment, including the ideas that the environment is the product of a variety of processes, that it supports and enriches human and other life, that people value the environment in different ways and that the environment has its specific hazards.

Water is investigated using studies drawn from Australia, countries of the Asia region, and countries from West Asia and/or North Africa.

**Place and liveability** focuses on the concept of place through an investigation of liveability.

This unit examines factors that influence liveability and how it is perceived, the idea that places provide us with the services and facilities needed to support and enhance our lives, and that spaces are planned and managed by people.

It develops students’ ability to evaluate the liveability of their own place and to investigate whether it can be improved through planning. The liveability of places is investigated using studies drawn from Australia and Europe.

Students will be assessed through a variety of means including homework, major and minor assignments, oral and written presentations and classroom participation. There will be opportunities for collaborative work using digital learning platforms.
Year 8 GEOGRAPHY – Elective Subject – One Semester

There are two units of study in the Year 8 Geography curriculum: Landscapes and landforms and Changing Nations.

Landscapes and landforms focuses on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms.

This unit examines the processes that shape individual landforms, the values and meanings placed on landforms and landscapes by diverse cultures, hazards associated with landscapes, and management of landscapes.

The students develop an understanding of the concept of environment and enables them to explore the significance of landscapes to people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

Changing nations investigates the changing human geography of countries, as revealed by shifts in population distribution.

The unit explores the process of urbanisation and through a case study of an Asian region. Students investigate the reasons for the high level of urban concentration in Australia, one of the distinctive features of Australia’s human geography, and compares Australia with the United States of America.

The redistribution of population resulting from internal migration is examined through comparative case studies of Australia and China.

The unit then examines issues related to the management and future of Australia’s urban areas.

Assessment

Assessment will involve homework, classwork, a fieldwork experience and written and oral presentations. There is an emphasis on skills development and the collaborative use of ICT. There is an end of Semester Test.

Year 9 GEOGRAPHY - CORE Subject – One Semester

There are two units of study in the Year 9 Geography curriculum: Biomes and food security and Geographies of interconnections.

Biomes and food security focuses on investigating the role of the biotic environment and its role in food and fibre production.

This unit examines the biomes of the world, their alteration and significance as a source of food and fibre, and the environmental challenges and constraints on expanding food production in the future.

These distinctive aspects of biomes, food production and food security are investigated using studies drawn from Australia and across the world.

Geographies of interconnections focuses on investigating how people, through their choices and actions, are connected to places throughout the world in a wide variety of ways, and how these connections help to make and change places and their environments.

This unit examines the interconnections between people and places through the products people buy and the effects of their production on the places that make them.

Students examine the ways that transport and information and communication technologies have made it possible for an increasing range of services to be provided internationally, and
for people in isolated rural areas to connect to information, services and people in other places. These distinctive aspects of interconnection are investigated using studies drawn from Australia and across the world.

**Assessment:**

Assessment will involve homework, classwork, a fieldwork experience and written and oral presentations. There is an emphasis on skills development and the collaborative use of ICT. There is an end of Semester Test.

**Year 10 GEOGRAPHY – Elective Subject - One Semester**

There are two units of study in the Year 10 Geography curriculum: Environmental change and management and Geographies of human wellbeing.

**Environmental change and management** focuses on investigating environmental geography through an in-depth study of a specific environment.

The unit begins with an overview of the environmental functions that support all life, the major challenges to their sustainability, and the environmental worldviews - including those of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples - that influence how people perceive and respond to these challenges.

Students investigate a specific type of environment and environmental change in Australia and one other country. They apply human-environment systems thinking to understand the causes and consequences of the change and geographical concepts and methods to evaluate and select strategies to manage the change.

**Geographies of human wellbeing** focuses on investigating global, national and local differences in human wellbeing between places.

This unit examines the different concepts and measures of human wellbeing, and the causes of global differences in these measures between countries.

Students explore spatial differences in wellbeing within and between countries, and evaluate the differences from a variety of perspectives. They explore programs designed to reduce the gap between differences in wellbeing. These distinctive aspects of human wellbeing are investigated using studies drawn from Australia, India and across the world as appropriate.

Students will sit an end of semester exam.

**Stage 1 GEOGRAPHY – Elective Subject – One Semester (10 Credits) or Full Year (20 Credits)**

**Themes and Topics**

For a 10-credit subject students study 2-3 topics from one or two of the themes.

For a 20-credit subject, students study 4-6 topics, with at least one topic from each theme.

**Theme 1: Sustainable Places**

- Topic 1: Rural and/or remote places
- Topic 2: Urban places
- Topic 3: Megacities.

**Theme 2: Hazards**

- Topic 4: Natural Hazards
- Topic 5: Biological and Human Induced Hazards.
Theme 3: Contemporary Issues

- Topic 6: Local Issues
- Topic 7: Global Issues.

**ASSESSMENT SCOPE AND REQUIREMENTS**

Assessment Type 1: Geographical Skills and Applications

Students produce geographical skills and applications tasks to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts, and examine geographical features, patterns, and processes.

For this assessment type, students provide evidence of their learning primarily in relation to the following assessment design criteria:

- knowledge and understanding
- analysis and evaluation
- application.

Assessment Type 2: Fieldwork.

Students undertake fieldwork that is linked to a topic of study. They use geographical skills to make observations, record data in the field, and identify, select, and analyse the field data. They produce multimodal, written, and/or oral evidence to communicate geographical information and findings, and make recommendations.

For this assessment type, students provide evidence of their learning primarily in relation to the following assessment design criteria:

- analysis and evaluation
- application.

Students will sit an end of semester exam.

**Stage 2 GEOGRAPHY – Elective Subject - 20 credit points**

**While this course is not available in 2017 it will be offered in 2018.**

Stage 2 Geography is consists of:

A. a compulsory core topic
B. two option topics from a choice of twelve

A. **Core Topic: Population, Resources, and Development**

This topic introduces students to the processes involved in population change. Through it, students become aware of the impacts of population and consumption on the environment. Water is used as a case study.

**World Population**

**The Processes of Population Change**

**Issues Arising from Changes in the Composition of Populations and the Movement of People**

**Resources**
B. Option Topics

Students must study issues related to two of the following topics:

1. Urbanisation
2. Rural Places
3. Tourism
4. Sources and Use of Energy
5. Coasts
6. Biodiversity
7. Climate Change
8. Soils
9. Environmental Hazards
10. Globalisation
11. Drylands

The Fieldwork component of the course is centred on the two option topics and students will have the full year to complete it. These topics are not part of the end of year exam.

For a more detailed description of the Geography core topic and option topics follow this link to the SACE website, Geography page and click on Subject Outline:

https://www.sace.sa.edu.au/web/geography
The following assessment types are undertaken in Stage 2 Geography:

*School Assessment (70%)*
Assessment Type 1: Fieldwork (25%)
Assessment Type 2: Inquiry (20%)
Assessment Type 3: Folio (25%)

*External Assessment (30%)*
Assessment Type 4: Examination (30%).

Students undertake:
- one individual fieldwork report on one option topic
- one inquiry on the second option topic
- four to six group and individual assessments for the folio
- a two hour exam based on the Core Topic.