



# ARMIDALE SECONDARY COLLEGE

*Our Future, Our Learning*

## **Year 7 and Year 8, 2020 Elective Subjects Handbook**

**Armidale Secondary College**

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## SUBJECTS STUDIED IN YEAR 7

ENGLISH	6 periods per 2-week cycle
MATHEMATICS	6 periods per cycle
SCIENCE	6 periods per cycle
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY	5 periods per cycle; 1 subject studied in each semester
TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY	5 periods per cycle
VISUAL ARTS	3 periods per cycle
MUSIC	3 periods per cycle
PD/HEALTH	2 periods per cycle
ELECTIVE	4 periods per cycle <b>1 studied in each semester</b>
Integrated PE/SPORT	4 periods per cycle
SRE	1 period per cycle

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## SUBJECTS STUDIED IN YEAR 8

ENGLISH	6 periods per 2-week cycle
MATHEMATICS	6 periods per cycle
SCIENCE	6 periods per cycle
HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY	5 periods per cycle; 1 subject studied in each semester
TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY	5 periods per cycle
LANGUAGES	5 periods per cycle
VISUAL ARTS	2 periods per cycle
MUSIC	2 periods per cycle
PD/HEALTH/PE	3 periods per cycle
ELECTIVE	4 periods per cycle <b>1 studied in each semester</b>
SPORT	2 periods per cycle
SRE	1 period per cycle

## ELECTIVES

The elective program at Armidale Secondary College for Year 7 and 8 students is unique. Very few schools offer electives to students in these years. As a school, we want students to have as many learning experiences as they can in the areas in which they are interested or have a particular talent. We encourage students to develop skills and abilities that may assist them in the future to make choices about the areas of further education and training they may wish to follow.

Armidale Secondary College believes that all students can learn and have particular gifts and talents that need to be nurtured. Students entering Year 7 will be asked to choose their electives later this year. **For students in Year 8, we ask that they select new electives to avoid repeating content and skills, with the exception of some practical courses.** The electives that will be offered in 2020 to students in Stage 4 will be:

Agriculture	Histories Mysteries
Animal Husbandry	Let's Connect to Country
Art Attack	Mechatronics
Computer Drawing	Metal Technology
Computing Studies	Multimedia Studies
Cultural Cooking	Music Elective
Dance	Planet Earth
Dollars and Sense	Rugby League
Drama	So you want to be a Footballer?
Engineering	Sport for Life
Fashion Design	Visual Arts
Food Technology	Wood Technology
Forensic Science	World Languages and Culture

## **ELECTIVE SUBJECTS OFFERED IN 2020**

Please note that subject offering depends on number of interested students.

### **Agriculture**

#### **Outline of Course**

The Agriculture Course 7-10 is structured to achieve effective learning by direct experience, where possible, with plants, animals, soils etc. It involves a balance, between theory and practical applications, including problem solving, researching, planning, managing, producing and marketing. Students also have the opportunities to explore moral and ethical issues associated with living things and the environment.

Agriculture is offered as an elective subject in Years 9 and 10 and is offered as an HSC subject.

#### **Course Requirements**

- Years 7-8 require an exercise book – approximately 60 pages
- Practical work often done on the school farm
- Sturdy footwear is a must and a hat in summer is strongly advised
- Occasionally a change of clothes or a pair of overalls could be required.

#### **Homework**

Periodic homework is given to complement classwork.

#### **Assessment Strategies**

Assessment is divided into categories of knowledge and skills. 'Knowledge' is assessed primarily through class tests. 'Skills' involve students attempting various tasks e.g. Research, report – written and/or oral, practical tasks.

### **Animal Husbandry**

#### **Outline of Course**

The animal husbandry course is aimed at allowing students the opportunity to learn about the art of feeding, leading, grooming and general preparation of animals of various species for the show ring. At the same time, students will be learning about the specific criteria of different species of animals that will enable them to select the best animals in a judging situation. This may involve students traveling to local shows with the animals to participate in events.

#### **Course Requirements**

- Students require a 36 page exercise book
- Practical sturdy footwear
- A change of old clothes or overalls for animal work.

#### **Homework**

Students will be given homework at the discretion of the teacher.

### **Assessment**

Students will be assessed primarily in the area of skill development in regards to their progress with the animal used. Some knowledge assessment will be given on specific animal judging criteria.

### **Art Attack**

**Course contribution: \$20 per semester**

#### **Outline of Course**

Art Attack is an extension art course that explores the many unusual and funky aspects of art making. The subject has a strong focus on creative problem solving through the exploration of a wide range of themes and media.

Students will participate in two dimensional, three-dimensional and four dimensional art activities. These include drawing; print making, digital and wet photography, ceramics and sculpture, animation and short movie making.

It is a wild ride from start to finish, designed to inspire and excite the creative side of all students.

#### **Course Requirements**

- Pencils, HB, 6B
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Visual Arts diary

#### **Assessment Strategies**

- Portfolio of 5 best works
- Folio of 10 supporting works
- Student evaluation statement

### **Computer Drawing**

#### **Course Outline**

This course introduces students to knowledge and skills in the Graphics Technology course, with particular emphasis on using computers and a variety of CAD programs to produce technical drawings and 3D Models.

Students will learn about:

- Australian architectural drafting standards
- Auto CAD
- Sketchup
- Inventor
- Revit-Architecture

#### **Course Requirements**

Students will require a small A4 sketch book, a memory stick, 5mm clutch pencil with H or HB lead, a good quality pencil eraser. All other equipment will be supplied for use at school.

### **Homework**

To ensure that all coursework is kept up to date and submitted when required.

### **Assessment Strategies**

The bulk of the assessment policy will involve the progressive assessment of classwork and drawings.

## **Computing Studies**

### **Outline of Course**

Computers are an integral part of work and study in the modern world. Students in this course will learn mastery of this vital tool and will gain skills they can use through their daily lives, their study and their leisure.

The course examines the computer from the basics upwards. Students will learn about the hardware, software and operating system. They will develop skills in using typical computer applications and will be introduced to programming using MicroBit.

### **Course Requirements**

- Homework will involve working on the design of projects.

### **Assessment Strategies**

Assessment of course outcomes will be evaluated by the completion of projects and some research.

## **Cultural Cooking**

**Course contribution: \$50 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

This course provides students with knowledge and skills in:

- Food habits of other cultures
- Culture studies
- Restaurant and food outlets
- Nutritional requirements
- Practical cookery

Students visit a different country each week and learn about its culture and food habits. Each double period students will prepare a dish from that country.

### **Course Requirements**

- Students need to supply tablecloth, table settings appropriate to each culture, A4 folder.
- Course contribution for costs of practical lessons.

### **Assessment**

- Homework
- Research Assignment and oral presentation
- Folio

- Practical experiences

## Dance

### Course Outline

This course is designed around three interrelated areas of dance study:

\* Composition                      \* Performance                      \* Appreciation

Together these will form the basis of a balanced dance elective.

### Areas of Study

- Skill Development - this area looks at the physical requirements of dance performance and their development, i.e. Skills, sequencing, space, time, dance dynamics and safe dance practices.
- Composition and Choreography - this will provide the students with the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of composition and choreography.
- Appreciation - this looks at various international influences on dance styles plus the variety of dance styles i.e. folk, jazz, classical, modern etc.
- Performance - students will be required to choreograph and be involved with a number of performances throughout the year (e.g. North West Dance Festival).
- Theory of Dance - this area looks at the various cultural and social influences on dance, the history of dance and the development of dance.

### Course Requirements

Students are required to **CHANGE** into suitable dance clothes for all practical classes. This may be Armidale Secondary College sports gear, or leotard and tights, T-shirt and track pants. It is important that students are able to move freely to be able to dance most effectively.

### Homework

Various homework tasks may be assigned to students.

### Assessment Strategies

- Teacher observation of group work, skill development and involvement in classroom and practical lessons.
- Completed, organised and up to date worksheets and bookwork.
- Student presentations of dance items individually and in groups.

## Dollars and Sense

### Outline of Course

Learn how not to be ripped off? How to get the most from your hard earned dollars? Would you like to learn about the law? This course covers key aspects of:

- Consumer rights
- Money and credit
- Avoiding debt
- Share trading
- Wheeling and dealing in property including using simulation software
- Criminal law

- Crime and arrest
- Some of Australia's most famous legal cases.

## **Drama**

### **Outline of Course**

This course is an introduction to Drama. Drama encourages the development of collaborative skills and engages students in a creative process of developing and expressing emotions and ideas. Drama develops communication skills vital to all employment areas. It assists students to develop positive self-concepts and to be self-motivated.

Performance is central to the drama course – developing voice, movement and improvisation skills, creating characters and exploring scripts. During the second half of the semester, students of Drama will work in groups, to rehearse and perform a scene in class. They will use theatrical devices work shopped in class, and an understanding of performance conventions to create a final show for their peers.

### **Course Requirements**

One A4 exercise book 48 pages (the drama logbook)

### **Homework**

- Each practical lesson will require students to make a brief reflection in their log book
- Performances will require lines to be learned

### **Assessment Strategies**

Processes and performances in drama are equally valued. Students will be continually assessed based on their growth of skills in the subject. Assessment includes strategies for self-assessment and peer assessment to help students to take responsibility for their own learning.

## **Engineering**

**Course contribution: \$20 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

Basic Engineering is a practical course that allows the student to develop knowledge and skills in the use of materials, tools and techniques related to structures and mechanisms. Students will specialise in the design, planning and construction of projects related to Engineering. These may include:

- small structures
- small vehicles
- a range of devices and appliances
- robotics projects
- electronic and mechanical control systems.

Students will use materials such as wood, metal, acrylic and electronic components to create practical solutions and projects.



### **Course Requirements**

36 page exercise book. Appropriate footwear and safety glasses will be required when using tools and machinery.

### **Homework**

Students are required to ensure bookwork and theory sheets are up to date and complete.

### **Assessment Strategies**

Students will be assessed on **SKILLS** (class practical, problem solving) and **KNOWLEDGE** (test, documented work) according to course Performance Descriptors.

## **Fashion Design**

**Course contribution: \$20 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

A practical Semester course introducing the basic skills for designing and constructing products and garments (one personal garment is the minimum requirement).

Experiences include fabric decoration techniques such as machine embroidery as well as printing and dyeing. Students produce a portfolio of design and construction experiences.

### **Course Requirements**

- Students provide own fabric and notions for garments
- Sharp scissors, pins and a Bernina bobbin are required
- A4 display folder

### **Homework**

- Complete set practical construction techniques
- Read fashion magazines and newspaper articles
- Practice fashion sketching

### **Assessment Strategies**

- Fashion designing and sketching
- Portfolio
- Practical Constructions

## **Food Technology**

**Course contribution: \$50 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

This course involves students investigating food through “hands on” applications and processes such as designing, researching, making, communicating and managing.

It provides opportunities for students to evaluate the impact of food technologies on the individual (health), society environment and resources.

### **Course Requirements**

- A4 folder
- Equipment appropriate to practical exercises e.g. tablecloths, table settings

### **Homework**

- Regular completion of class work if necessary
- Complete design briefs
- Research/assignments
- Folio maintained to an acceptable standard

### **Assessment Strategies**

- Folio - preparation and presentation
- Research/assignments
- Oral presentation
- Practical application

## **Forensic Science**

### **Outline of Course**

An opportunity for students to experience real “hands on” investigation techniques used by forensic scientists. Activities include fingerprinting, footprints, odontology, fiber analysis, profiling based on clothing and pocket contents, glass analysis and investigations of actual cases.

Students may be invited to participate in web based crime games/simulations including the environmental science game: Murder under the Microscope.

### **Course Requirements**

- An exercise book (96 pages)

### **Homework**

- Completing missed work
- Completing Assignments
- Home work sheets

### **Assessment Strategies**

- Assignments and/or
- Practical test and/or
- Case Studies Report

## **History's Mysteries**

### **Outline of Course**

What are some of history's mysteries? Who 'done' it? What was it? Why did it happen?

These questions and more will be explored in this elective. You will develop your skills as a historian to investigate the past and its impact on the present and the future.

History's Mysteries will promote a better understanding about the forces that have changed the world. Students will learn the knowledge and the skills to become a more responsive and engaged human being, and to discover their own place in the stories of their families, communities and the wider world.

This course allows students to explore areas of personal interest through projects and competitions, and to undertake authentic historical inquiry.

**Course Requirements:**

- 1 x 96-page exercise book or digital equivalent
- Students will also need stationery items such as coloured pencils, scissors and glue.

*Napoleon Bonaparte said: "History is a set of lies agreed upon", join us in History's Mysteries to see if this is true.*

## **Let's Connect to Country**

### **Outline of Course**

This year7 elective focuses on culture, identity and country. Our course is designed to give all students electing to study this an opportunity to explore Aboriginal Peoples' relationship to the Land, Aboriginal heritage and identity, and to start to embark on a study of local language. Much of learning will involve case studies, excursions and opportunities for hands on learning as we connect to the experiences of being aboriginal in our community. We hope to connect with the local Language revival group to give students a better understanding of the Anaiwan language, and to develop core literacy skills. Students will engage in both group and individual work, create projects based on their learning, and explore texts written about and by Aboriginal people as a way of examining both personal and cultural identity.

**Course Requirements:**

- 1 x 96-page exercise book

## **Mechatronics**

**Course contribution: \$45 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

Our world is run by machines, but these machines are programmed and built by people. This course will teach students how to construct and control their own computer-based machines. You don't need any experience in electronics or programming, just an interest in how things work and basic computer skills.

The course is divided into 3 sections:

Topic 1: Using sensors to detect the environment

Topic 2: Controlling movement

Topic 3: Projects applying the skills learned, including building and programming a robotic vehicle to follow a course and avoid obstacles.

This is a STEM unit (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and students will be applying skills from all these Key Learning Areas.

The contribution fee includes an Arduino programmable module for each student to keep at the end of the course.

## **Metal Technology**

**Course contribution: \$20 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

Basic Metal is a practical course that allows the student to specialise in the design, planning and construction of useful projects from such areas as:

- Metal machining
- Metal fabrication
- Sheet metal work
- Art metal work

Students will experience the use of a wide range of hand tools, stationary machinery and a variety of joining processes, such as soldering, brazing and riveting.

Appropriate footwear and safety glasses will be required when using tools and machinery.

### **Homework**

Homework is required from time to time to keep up to date with bookwork.

### **Assessment Strategies**

Students will be assessed on **SKILLS** (class practical, problem solving) and **KNOWLEDGE** (test, documented work).

## **Multimedia Studies**

**Course contribution: \$10 per semester**

### **Outline of Course**

Students will engage in a series of exciting projects which combine digitised media types into meaningful presentations. Students will gain skills in the creation and editing of a variety of media types including.

- Text and hypertext
- Graphics
- Sound
- Video
- Animations

Students will learn to critically evaluate multimedia presentations through an assessment of works presented in the popular media and on the Internet. They will be introduced to the basics of file formats and the impact of modern technology on how information is presented.

### **Course Requirements**

Students will require a display folder.

### **Homework**

Homework will involve working on the design of projects.

### **Assessment Strategies**

Assessment of course outcomes will be judged by the completion of projects and some research.

## **Music – Elective**

Course contribution: \$10 per semester

### **Outline of Course**

Music elective offers a wide variety of music making experiences beyond compulsory music including; digital music production, performances on a variety of instrument as well as voice within a variety of musical styles. Students will engage with Digital Audio Workstation (DAW) software to record and produce an album of their work. Students will develop skills in recording techniques associated with various technologies. This elective includes an excursion to a professional recording studio. Students will be expected to work both individually and collaboratively.

Students are expected to make a commitment to developing their instrumental and recording skills by regularly practicing.

### **Course Requirements**

- The contribution fee will cover the cost of the software and technology required.
- A willingness to work collaboratively with other students.
- A willingness to record yourself on software with voice and instruments
- Internet at home is desirable.

### **Assessment**

- Recorded compositions, both original and covers as groups and individuals
- Observational assessment of skill development and confidence

### **Homework**

Students are expected to regularly engage with DAW software to improve their recordings.

## **Planet Earth**

### **Outline of Course**

Climate, Environment, People, Challenge, Change

There has never been a more exciting time to study Geography in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, with it being a subject vital to everyone.

This elective will allow you to test and flex your geographic muscles. No matter how much you think you know about the geography of Planet Earth, you are guaranteed to learn something new about our amazing environment.

The learning in this elective will help you to **appreciate Earth as the homeland of humankind and investigate the planet’s natural beauty through hands on activities, fieldwork and technology.**

**Course Requirements:**

- 1 x 96-page exercise book or digital equivalent
- Students will also need stationery items such as coloured pencils, scissors and glue.

*In the words of Michael Palin “Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future”*

## **Rugby League – The Greatest Game**

### **Outline of Course**

The Rugby League – The Greatest Game course incorporates both theory and practical components that look at many aspects of this game. Skills developed by students in this course can be transferred to many other sporting pursuits or can be utilized as developmental tools for other aspects of life.

### **Modules covered include:**

- Rules and laws of Rugby League
- History of Rugby League
- Skill acquisition and development – passing, catching, tackling, kicking and evasion
- Development of tactics and strategies
- Development of practice of skill drills
- Principles of coaching
- Training techniques – fitness, skill, and team
- Code of conduct – sportsmanship and fair play
- Nutrition for sports performance
- Psychology for sports performance – stress management, mental rehearsal
- Sport injury prevention, treatment and rehabilitation
- Performance enhancement – legal and illegal

### **Assessment Strategies**

- Teacher observation of practical performance
- Peer assessment of practical tasks
- Physical skills test
- Written tests and quizzes
- Major project

## So you want to be a Footballer?

Course contribution: \$20 per semester

### Outline of Course

Want to know the difference between soccer and football?

Extend your knowledge, skills and understanding of The World Game in this elective.

Aspects of The World Game covered (but not limited to):

- The Essential Skills for Success
- Being at your Physical and Mental Peak
- Tactical Decision Making
- Pros and Cons of Team Formations
- Testing, Analysis, Simulation and Improvement
- The Match Day
- What it means to be a Pro

The course is a mix of theory and practical lessons, whereby understanding and knowledge learnt in class is applied during the practical lessons.

### Course Requirements:

- 1 x 96-page exercise book or digital equivalent
- ASC Sports Uniform
- Appropriate footwear (football boots/futsal shoes)

## Sport for Life

Sport 4 Life is an exciting course where students actively participate in a range of recreational, leisure and sports options to enhance positive physical habits and a commitment to lifelong health.

They will develop skills in Lifesaving and Resuscitation, learn about injury assessment and management, explore a range of movement skills through gymnastics/aerobics, appreciate the enjoyment and challenge of physical activity through recreational pursuits and learn about the meaning of the Olympics, where athletes striving for the Olympic spirit make challenges, goals and decisions.

**Term 1** Lifesaving/Resuscitation/Aquatics

**Term 2** Extreme Sports

-The Olympic Games

**Term 3** Movement Machine

-Gymnastics, dance, aerobics

**Term 4** Lifelong Recreational Pursuits

- Fitness vs physical activity

- Exploring new physical opportunities (elective sports)

- Developing a plan for lifelong health
- Fitness training

## Visual Arts

Course contribution: \$15 per semester

- You do not have to be “good at drawing”.
  - This exciting course is about unlocking your creative mind!
  - You will work with digital cameras, clay, printmaking, wood, paint, rich materials and pencils
- Your artistic works will say a lot about you, the people around you and where you belong!

## Wood Technology

Course contribution: \$15 per semester

### Outline of Course

A practical course where students design, plan and construct a range of projects primarily from timber. The challenge of each project increases throughout the course and include the use of portable and fixed machinery, hand tools and the wood lathe.

### Course Requirements

- HB pencil to be brought to each lesson
- The contribution fee assists to offset the cost of materials
- Appropriate footwear and safety glasses will be required when using tools and machinery

### Homework

Students are required to complete any set theory work. Students absent from any class are required to see the teacher and catch up any work missed.

### Assessment Strategies

Students will be assessed on **SKILLS** (class practical, problem solving) and **KNOWLEDGE** (test & documented work)

## World Languages and Culture

*A Language and Culture Elective for Year 7*

### Outline of Course

Armidale Secondary College celebrates cultural diversity and the cultural heritage of our students, as well as embracing learning about other cultures. We are committed to provide students with quality learning and to nurture students with the linguistic and cultural skills necessary to operate as successful global citizens within the global world.

For the first time, **World Languages and Culture** will be offered as an elective **for Year 7 in 2020**. The course is a unique learning experience that allows students to explore differences in communication, customs and cultural practices through four focus studies:

- A focus on France
- A focus on Germany
- A focus on Japan



- A focus on personal heritage

Embedded in the World Languages and Culture elective is learning that develops cultural awareness, social and cultural literacy and an appreciation of the diversity of the school and town communities. Students will learn to make links in language by learning words within the focus studies and investigating the connections that exist with the student's first language. Students will also have the opportunity to explore their personal cultural heritage, make comparisons with the focus studies and share information with other students in the class.

Students will learn about how different people interact with each other and the wider world, food, festivals and belief systems, education, traditions and popular culture. In doing so, students will develop a greater sense of self and their place in the world.

Learning activities may include the use of technology (eg. video-conferencing, computer-based language programs, virtual reality, 360 Degree video and apps), hands-on activities (eg. craft, cooking, filmmaking, role-play, and games), viewing a film or documentary and exploring authentic written and spoken texts.

Where possible, students will also enjoy interacting with guest speakers and student visitors from other countries, such as the Japan Sister School visit. Hosting student visitors is also an opportunity for the students of Armidale Secondary College. Whole school celebrations such as NAIDOC Week and Harmony Day are additional activities that enhance student experience in the program.

Learning in the World Languages and Culture elective will foster student critical and creative thinking, listening skills, problem solving and global citizenship.

The World Languages and Culture elective supports students in developing linguistic awareness of how French, German and Japanese language systems work, which will enable them to make an informed decision when choosing a language to study in Year 8 for the 100 continuous hours

*"We are all different, which is great because we are all unique. Without diversity life would be very boring". Catherine Pulsifer*

**Course Requirements:**

- 1 x 96-page exercise book
- Students will also need stationery items such as coloured pencils, scissors and glue.