

Ringwood Secondary College
2017 Course Planning Document

VCE Unit 2 Environmental Science

Time Allocation

This unit of work will consist of approximately 100 hours of which at least 50 hours will be class time.
To complete this unit of work satisfactorily, students must complete each of the following learning outcomes.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1

The student should be able to compare a selected pollutant that results in bioaccumulation with an air- or water-borne pollutant, with reference to their sources, characteristics and dispersal, explain how they can be measured and monitored, and describe treatment options

Outcome 2

The student should be able to compare the sources, nature, transport mechanism, effects and treatment of three selected pollutants, with reference to their actions in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere.

Outcome 3

The student should be able to investigate and communicate a substantiated response to an issue involving the management of a selected pollutant of local interest.

Assessment Tasks

1. Test

The student is required to undertake a test at the completion of material from Area of Study 1 and 2.

Weighting: This task is worth 15% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 1 period.

Due: Term 3, Week 9

2. Student Investigation of Air Pollution, Water Pollution and Soil Pollution

The student is required to investigate and compare the effects, the sources, nature and transport mechanisms of three selected pollutants, with reference to their actions in the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and lithosphere. This will include a field trip.

Weighting: This task is worth 15% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 6-10 periods

Due: Term 4, Week 3-6

3. Case Study Report

The student is required to investigate a case study involving the management of a selected pollutant of local interest. Students will prepare and submit a report that explains the relevant scientific concepts, identifies different management options including social, economic, legal and ethical implications, and presents a justified position on a preferred solution.

Weighting: This task is worth 20% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 1 day field work and 1 lesson for the report.

Due: Term 4, Week 5

4. Semester Examination

The student is required to apply knowledge and understanding of pollution and associated impacts on Earth's four systems through global, national and local perspectives. They are required to distinguish between wastes, contaminants and pollutants and examine the characteristics, measurement and management of pollution.

Weighting: This task is worth 50% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 90 minutes

Due: Term 4, Week 7