

Ringwood Secondary College
2017 Course Planning Document
VCE Unit 4 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

On completion of this unit the student should be able to compare the advantages and disadvantages of a range of energy sources, evaluate the sustainability of their use, and explain the impacts of their use on society and the environment.

Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain the causes and effects of changes to Earth's climate, compare methods of measuring and monitoring atmospheric changes, and explain the impacts of atmospheric changes on living things and the environment.

Outcome 3

On completion of this unit the student should be able to design and undertake a practical investigation related to biodiversity or energy use from an environmental management perspective, and present methodologies, findings and conclusions in a scientific poster.

Assessment Tasks

1. A Report of a Student Investigation

The student is required to undergo a number of experiments and write report on Energy, renewable resources and non-renewable resources.

Weighting: This task is worth 5% of the overall grade

Time allocated to task: 3 periods

Due: Term 3, Week: 2

2. Media Analysis and response to set of questions.

Weighting: This task is worth 5% of the overall grade

Time allocated to task: 1 period

Due: Term 3, Week: 6

3. A response to structured questions

The student is required to answer a set of questions that shows his/her understanding of causes and effects of changes to the Earth's climate, shows he/she understands the methods of measuring and monitoring atmospheric changes, and he/she is able to explain the impacts of atmospheric changes on living things and the environment.

Weighting: This task is worth 10% of the overall grade

Time allocated to task: 1 period

Due: Term 3, Week: 9

4. End of Year Examination

The student is required to apply knowledge and understanding of units 3 and 4.

Weighting: This task is worth 50% of the overall grade **Time allocated to task:** 120 minutes

School-assessed Coursework for Unit 4 will contribute 30 per cent of the study score.

The level of achievement for Units 3 and 4 is also assessed by an end-of-year examination, which will contribute 50 percent to the study score.

Unit 4 VCAA Written Examinations commence Term 4, Week 4 from 1/11/2017