



Collegiate Girls' High School

Subject Information Booklet

Grade Ten 2027





Contents

Contents

Message from the Principal.....	3
Subject Choice Structure	4
Accounting.....	7
Afrikaans First Additional Language (FAL)	8
Computer Applications Technology (CAT).....	9
Consumer Studies.....	10
Dramatic Arts.....	11
English Home Language.....	12
French Second Additional Language	13
Further Studies English.....	14
Further Studies Mathematics (FSM).....	16
Geography	17
History	19
Information Technology	21
isiXhosa First Additional Language	22
Life Orientation.....	23
Life Sciences.....	24
Mathematics.....	25
Mathematical Literacy.....	26
Music	27
Physical Sciences	28
Visual Arts.....	29
IT and CAT Comparison Table.....	30
Subject Head Contact Details	31



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents

I realise that the task of assisting your daughter to make the correct subject choice may be a daunting one. I hope that the information shared with you in this booklet will assist you in this process.

I encourage you and your daughter to consult universities' websites in order to gain an understanding of the requirements needed for a selected course or degree. The information provided to you in this booklet about the structure of the FET curriculum, each of the subjects offered at Collegiate, and the recommendation from the school should assist you in selecting the subjects best suited to your daughter's career interest and academic ability.

We offer a wide range of subjects with a largely open choice, and we encourage learners to select a diverse combination of subjects in which they have an interest. Please review the grade inclinations test undertaken by your daughter in the second term. This report provides recommendations based on your daughter's aptitudes and interests.

The Head of Academics is responsible for managing the subject combinations and choices. Occasionally, because of the number of learners who have elected to do a specific subject, we are unable to accommodate your daughter's choice of subjects. We will then discuss this with you and find the best solution. The Subject Heads, the Wellbeing Department and Life Orientation teachers are available to offer you and your daughter advice, as is Mrs Gerber. All their contact details appear in this booklet. Additional information about the academic programme at Collegiate is on our website: www.collegiatehigh.co.za

I wish you and your daughter wisdom as you make this important choice.

Kind regards

Mrs L Erasmus
Principal



Subject Choice Structure

The **FET Curriculum in Grades Ten – Twelve** at Collegiate is as follows:

SUBJECT CHOICE FOR GRADE TEN: 2027

Compulsory subjects:

1. English (Home Language)
2. Afrikaans (First Additional Language) OR isiXhosa (First Additional Language)
3. Mathematics OR Mathematical Literacy
4. Life Orientation

Three elective subjects need to be chosen from the following:

Accounting
Computer Applications Technology (CAT)
Consumer Studies (Food or Clothing)
Dramatic Arts
French (Second Additional Language)
Geography
History
Information Technology
Life Sciences
Music
Physical Sciences
Visual Arts

Music may only be chosen if the pupil has completed Royal Schools /Trinity Grade 3 PRACTICAL and THEORETICAL.

Learners have the option of taking Dance Studies, Further Studies English and Further Studies Mathematics as an eighth subject.

Please see information within this booklet regarding Further Studies English and Further Studies Mathematics.

Learners wishing to take Dance Studies as an eighth subject should discuss this with the Dance Studio they are affiliated with and should contact Mrs Sandra Gerber to discuss it further. There are two Dance Studio teachers who are affiliated with Collegiate Girls' High School. A separate application form must be filled in.

**Minimum requirements for a National Senior Certificate**

- Level 3 (40-49%) in a Home Language
- Level 3 (40-49%) in two other subjects
- Level 2 (30-39%) in three other subjects
- Complete SBA (School Based Assessment Portfolio) for subject less than 30%

Requirements for entrance into Bachelor's Degree study at a University

In order to achieve the minimum requirements for admission to a Bachelor's Degree programme at University, you need to satisfy the following additional requirements:

- Level 4 (50-59%) in four NCS subjects. This may include your Home Language.
- Two subjects with Level 2 (30-39%)
- Complete SBA (School Based Assessment Portfolio) for subject less than 30%

Note:

- A Higher Education Institution (HEI) is entitled to specify an appropriate level of subject achievement for a particular programme.
- Admission Point Score (APS) allocates point values to six National Senior Certificate (NCS) subjects. A Higher Education Institution (HEI) determines the points required for programmes at their institution.

Subject Change

A learner may change a maximum of two subjects in Grade Ten. Any subject change is subject to approval and is a process of consultation with the parents, teacher whose subject is being left and the teacher of the new subject. We also need to look at the timetable and class sizes to determine the viability of the move. Please do not leave requesting a subject change to the deadline date as the process needs a few days to run its course. You also need to bear in mind that with any change comes the need to catch up on work missed in the new subject. This is not always easy.

All requests for subject changes should be emailed to gerber.s@cghs.co.za. The name of the learner, the grade, subject change from and to and a letter of motivation for the change should be included in the email. The closing date for these changes are:

- By the end of Term Two in Grade Ten
- By the end of Term One in Grade Eleven
- By the end of final examinations in Grade Eleven

Please note that **Mathematics is required to take Physical Sciences**. Should a learner taking Physical Sciences change from Mathematics to Mathematical Literacy, she will not be allowed to continue with Physical Sciences. This is a Departmental ruling.



We recommend an Accounting and Mathematics subject choice combination. Learners are allowed to take Mathematical Literacy and Accounting, but it is not recommended.



Accounting

Subject Head: Mrs L Riley

Offered as an elective subject

Accounting is more than just a school curriculum subject. It is a life skill that will stand you in good stead no matter what profession you find yourself in one day. Many of our past Accounting learners have gone on to do extremely well in this and other related subjects for which they have been acknowledged at their respective universities.

Broad overview

The subject covers the following topics over Grades Ten to Twelve:

- Financial Recordings of a Business
- Managerial Aspects: Costing; Budgeting; Resources
- Auditing
- Business Ethics
- Good Corporate Governance
- Forms of Ownership
- Legislation such as the Companies Act and International Financial Recording Standards

The subject has a building blocks nature so it is essential not to miss out on any of the stages.

Who should consider taking the subject?

We have an easy checklist to see if this career would be of interest to you:

1. Do you want to work with money and finances?
 2. Does the world of business fascinate you and could you see yourself making decisions and helping businesses grow?
 3. Do the words “variety, entrepreneurship, job opportunities” resonate with you?
 4. Do the words “attention to detail, and leadership” resonate with you?
 5. Do you want to follow a career that allows you continued development and career satisfaction?
 6. Does a career that is synonymous with travel, international possibilities, people interaction and creativity, interest you?
- The subject has an analytical and interpretive approach so mathematical ability (non-verbal) and English language (verbal) competency is required. Learners must have the ability to understand and apply concepts.
 - Those who wish to study any B.Com, B.Bus. Sci. or business/marketing courses and wish to be at an advantage in their first year of study should consider the subject.
 - Those who wish to be financially literate for the real world and any career that they pursue will benefit from studying Accounting.



Afrikaans First Additional Language (FAL)

Subject Head: Mrs M Loubscher

Offered as a First Additional Language choice with isiXhosa First Additional Language

Afrikaans is a South African language spoken in many areas of the country. It is a language that is understood by non-mother tongue users more than any other language in South Africa. It has a fairly simple grammatical structure and a depth of literature.

Broad overview

The subject covers the following topics over Grades Ten to Twelve:

- Reading
- Speaking
- Writing
- Language structures

Who should consider taking the subject?

It is compulsory to take a language on a first additional level. Collegiate offers either Afrikaans FAL or isiXhosa FAL. It is advisable to take the First Additional Language in Grades Ten to Twelve that has been studied in the GET phase. Exemptions from offering an additional language are available for recent immigrants.



Computer Applications Technology (CAT)

Subject Head: Mrs D Human

Offered as an elective subject

In a world that is dominated by computer technology, the value of Computer Applications Technology (CAT) is indisputable. A CAT learner will leave school competent in end-user computing, a life skill and an asset highly sought after and rewarded in the job market.

Broad overview:

The following end-user applications running on Microsoft Windows 11 are covered in the syllabus:

- Word-processing (MS Word 2021)
- Presentations (MS PowerPoint 2021)
- Spreadsheets (MS Excel 2021)
- Databases (MS Access 2021) and also
- Basic web-page design (HTML)

Apart from the end-user computing, the theoretical component of the CAT syllabus encompasses:

- Theoretical knowledge on end-user applications
- Information management
- System Technologies
- Network and Internet Technologies
- Social Implications
- Solution Development (Problem Solving)

Who should consider taking the subject?

CAT is a very practical skills-based subject which will help you at university, college, and the work place. If you enjoy working with computers and its many applications, then CAT is a good subject to take. The great advantage of this subject is that it provides skills that can be applied immediately in the classroom and the workplace. Like all matric subjects, CAT will require consistent application and hard work.

Requirement for the subject:

The learner would need access to a desktop/laptop computer with Windows 11 and the MS Office 2021 (or higher) package that includes MS Access needed for Grade Eleven and Twelve. The learner will need to use this computer to practice and complete practical activities and tasks outside of school hours.

Why is CAT a useful subject to take?

Many universities require the inclusion of a compulsory computer literacy course in any degree or diploma. Students with CAT may apply for exemption in this regard. CAT is a recognized subject in the NCS and is therefore also recognized by universities. It is allocated points in the same way as any other subject. Although CAT is not a compulsory subject for any particular field of study, this subject does provide you with a range of basic skills useful in the field of Information Technology should you wish to study in this field further one day.



Consumer Studies

Subject Head: Mrs J Jooste

Offered as an elective subject

The subject Consumer Studies is a subject that focuses on developing knowledge, skills, values and attitudes in learners to enable them to become responsible and informed consumers of food, clothing, housing, furnishing and household equipment and to use resources optimally and in a sustainable manner. The subject also promotes the application of knowledge and skills in entrepreneurship and the production of quality marketable products that will meet consumer needs.

Broad overview

The subject covers:

- The Consumer - the implication of taxes, interest rates and inflation on the consumer
- Entrepreneurship – production and marketing/business planning
- Food and Nutrition – impact of food on natural and economic environment
- Clothing and Fashion
- Housing and Interiors
- Practical – once a cycle.

The theory of all sections will be covered. After completion of the theory, learners will be able to manufacture and market products from their practical component.

Learners will have the option to choose between Food or Clothing for the practical component. If the Food component is chosen, there is a fee to be paid to cover expenses, and a Chef's jacket is a necessity. If the Clothing component is offered, small needlework equipment, fabric and items will be needed. The learners will be guided with regard to the fabric requirements once the class is notified of the garment they will be making.

Who should consider taking the subject?

The main objective of the subject is to teach learners the skills to become entrepreneurs and business women in the business world and who will be able to apply knowledge and skills in the production of quality marketable products that will meet the consumer's needs. Those who wish to create opportunities for self-employment and entrepreneurial skills related to business skills are encouraged to consider taking this subject.

Consumer Studies is an excellent choice for those who are considering career choices in: Business Management and related Business Courses; Marketing and Management; Public Relations and Media; Hotel Management; Hospitality industry; Food Industry; Food Technology/Research; Bio-kinetics; Fashion-design; Fashion-buying; Interior Design; Consumer Services and event management; Product Development and Quality Assurance; Research in the food, nutrition, clothing and housing fields; Dietician; Entrepreneur; Extension work in government services or NGOs in community development.



Dramatic Arts

Subject Head: Ms K Scheepers

Offered as an elective subject

Drama explores and celebrates the human presence drawing on experiences from real life, the imagination and the realms of the media. It is the making and communicating of meaning involving performers and audiences, engaging in the suspension of disbelief. It provides a medium for personal exploration, social criticism, celebration and entertainment.

Learners who study Dramatic Arts are actively participating in a mode of learning that blends intellectual and emotional experience and offers a unique means of enquiry that contributes to knowing and understanding themselves and the world. The subject focuses on practical and theoretical concepts that go hand in hand. Each section has an equal weighting.

Broad overview

The Grade Ten course includes:

- Voice
- Movement
- Acting
- South African Theatre
- Greek Theatre
- Medieval Theatre
- Film Studies

Tasks for the year will include:

- Practical and Performance Acting Assessments
- Writing essays on Theory and Theatre History
- Theory Tests and Exams
- Reading and analysing Plays

Who should consider taking the subject?

Dramatic Arts learners develop a range of skills that are transferable to a variety of pathways. These skills are:

- Self-esteem and self-confidence
- Ability to speak in public
- Interpersonal skills
- Innovative thinking
- Ability to work in a team
- Interviewing skills
- Self Expression
- Understanding their context and the world around them

These skills are the basis for a career in the following, among others: Theatre; Advertising; Film Industry; Teaching; Public Relations; Journalism; Law; Marketing; Events Planning.



English Home Language

Subject Head: Ms J Kromhout

Offered as a compulsory core subject

English is an international language and at Collegiate it is the medium of instruction. Competency in English is thus of the essence for success in other subjects, and it is the aim to teach the subject in such a manner that enables learners to speak and write accurately, effectively, creatively and to learn successfully.

It is a subject that can be used to stimulate discussion, encourage problem-solving, demonstrate democracy, allow spontaneous expression within a disciplined environment, and to foster an interest in life and life's joys, problems and realities.

Broad overview

The FET course has four learning outcomes:

1. **Listening and Speaking:** learn to communicate effectively, logically, politely and with confidence.
2. **Language Structures and Conventions:** learn to understand the structure and nuances of language in order to use this knowledge to improve writing, speaking and thinking skills.
3. **Reading and Viewing:** learn to comprehend passages; enjoy reading; develop insight and self-discovery.
4. **Writing and Presenting:** develop powers of observation; write imaginatively, accurately and coherently; write correctly according to context.

Why should English Home Language be compulsory?

All subjects require the ability to read with understanding and comprehension. All subjects require the skill of speaking, writing and presenting work in a logical and succinct manner. Study at tertiary level requires an advanced competency in English as even if the medium of instruction is not English, many of the texts are written in English.

On a deeper level of existence, the study of literature – which dominates the FET course – puts us in touch with our humanity and inner emotions, teaches us to think and enables us to become engaged members of society.



French Second Additional Language

Subject Head: Mr B Shone

Offered as an elective subject

French is a widely spoken language in the world and the most widely taught language after English. It is also a foreign language of choice for many people and as such will increase your chances of communicating in non-English speaking countries.

Broad overview

The aim of the course is to make the learners competent in communicating in French, both in conversation and in writing. It is also to provide insight into France, its literature, customs and way of life.

Who should consider taking the subject:

- Those who wish to join the international and African job market in any field. French is estimated to have about 76 million native speakers (in France), about 235 million fluent speakers and 110 million secondary speakers who speak it as a second or third language, mainly in Africa.
- Those who wish to improve proficiency in English. Close to 50% of English vocabulary is derived from French and statistics show that learners of foreign languages score higher on standardized tests conducted in English.
- Those who wish to stimulate their mind. Learning a second and even a third language can enhance cognitive and intellectual abilities. Logical skills are enhanced.
- Those who will work with or in other African countries. In South Africa, trade with French-speaking African countries is constantly developing, so the need for French-speaking South Africans in various fields is increasing.
- France is in fourth position in terms of world power and it does not have the debt problems facing many other major industrialised nations. This is a positive sign for joint projects, business and scientific co-operation.
- French is the official language of the International Red Cross.
- France is one of the two official languages at the Olympic Games.
- French-speaking Africa represents an area larger than the USA.
- French is one of the official languages of the United Nations.
- France offers a range of generous scholarships to graduate students.
- France has the world's greatest number of Nobel Prize winners in literature.
- Learning French can help you improve the interpersonal skills you bring to your international career.
- French is spoken in over 43 countries in the world.

For those with the appropriate skills, there are also possibilities for work in the following fields: international business; international agencies; the tourism and hospitality industries; the diplomatic service; French research institutes; as a teacher; as a translator; archiving; fashion designing and artist



Further Studies English

Subject Head: Ms J Kromhout

Broad Overview

- Further Studies English is registered through the Independent Examinations Board.
- It is not part of the National Curriculum Statement.
- It was previously known as Advanced Programme English, but it has now been repackaged as Further Studies English.
- The IEB has established a division called IEB International and a qualification called the International Secondary Certificate of the IEB. In the ISC, the IEB has Further Studies Programmes, which were benchmarked by the UK ENIC (The UK National Agency for International Qualifications and Skills) and were found comparable to the overall GCE Advanced (A) level standard.
- The pass mark for all Further Studies subjects is 50%.
- Learners may begin the programme in Grade Eleven. There is an introductory session at the end of one's Grade Ten year in the fourth term.
- The programme takes roughly one and a half years to complete.

Vision of Further Studies English

- Opportunity to extend learners.
- Learners must display greater knowledge and depth of insight than is required for English Home Language.
- It is not simply designed for those learners who are planning on pursuing an English course at tertiary level, but it is for learners who realise this may be their last chance to immerse themselves in literature.
- Above all, Further Studies English nurtures a passion for English literature in a safe, stimulating shared space.

Learning outcomes:

- Establishing connections between different genres, texts, trends and contexts.
- Structuring arguments and insights in a coherent manner using accurate textual references.
- Using cognitive skills to design critical judgments.

Assessment

- There is one three-hour final examination at the end of Grade Twelve. It will cost approximately R1200.00 to write the final examination and this is paid by the parent or guardian. The cost is paid to the IEB by the school at the beginning of one's Grade Twelve year.
- Termly school-based assessment is required.
- Assessment will take the form of essays which will be set on the work covered.
- Assessment will take place towards the end of every term.
- Open-ended essay questions will be set which encourage learners to display an independence of spirit. Close textual analysis, as well as an ability to develop an argument and have a broad overview of contexts and themes is required.

Classes:

- Classes will be held on a Wednesday or Thursday afternoon.
- Classes will be roughly two hours in length.
- Classes take place in room 341, Ms Kromhout's classroom.



Who should consider taking the subject?

A Further Studies English learner should have an abiding love of literature, a questioning mind and the ability to formulate one's own opinion.

Further skills that would be beneficial if wanting to consider the subject:

- ability to read required texts on one's own so that one is ready to discuss the texts in class.
- enjoy close textual analysis.
- be open to new, alternative ways of thinking.
- enjoy the process of writing.
- willing to experience the programme as stimulating and fun as opposed to extra work that will add to one's stress levels.

The personal voices of ex-Further Studies English learners:

"Further Studies English is the link between high school and university. If you're planning to go into the humanities or any field that heavily requires critical thinking and good essay writing skills, Further Studies English will take you far. As a first year studying English, I can't emphasize how helpful it was and how much of an edge it gave me in university." – Loren Delponté

"Further Studies English taught me how to think critically and independently. It helped me grow into a more empathetic and understanding person. Even though I did not pursue a career in literature or writing, I still use what we learned in Further Studies English every day. Doing Further Studies English was the best decision I made in my high school career and I am so grateful for being awarded the opportunity." - Arielle Douglas-Henry



Further Studies Mathematics (FSM)

Subject Head: Mrs T Botha

Further Studies Mathematics (formerly known as Advanced Programme Mathematics) is a subject offered by IEB International. It is not an extra class in school Mathematics, but attended as an extra class after school.

The aim of FSM is to stimulate and enrich a learner, who is **already** performing well in Mathematics, by augmenting the school syllabus. The lessons are facilitated by Mathematics Teachers who follow the AdMaths Programme, which in Grades Ten to Twelve covers the full Further Studies Mathematics Curriculum.

At Collegiate, this programme is available to Grade Eight to Twelve learners. Learners would sign up with AdMaths online (admaths.co.za) and look at the various options on offer.

Different packages have different costs.

Numbers will determine whether the class is face-to-face or on-line. There are tutorials that are done throughout the year and examinations are written in May and October.

In Grade Twelve, learners are able to write a Further Studies Mathematics examination (Standard and/or Elective).

Who should consider taking the subject?

- Those considering a mathematics degree.
- Those considering pursuing degrees in engineering, science, medicine and even business science and would like to further equip themselves with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in STEM-related fields at university level.
- Those who want to develop critical thinking skills, logical reasoning, and the ability to apply mathematical knowledge to solve complex problems.



Geography

Subject Head: Mrs C Kelly

Offered as an elective subject

Geography is the study of the world around us and the complex relationships between people, places, the environment, and the economy. It helps us understand how natural processes shape the Earth and how human activities influence the world we live in. By exploring topics such as weather, rivers, landforms, ecosystems, population growth, development, urbanisation, and resource use, Geography connects the physical environment to society and the business world. As a subject of the world, Geographical concepts affect our everyday lives and virtually every career path.

Why Choose Geography?

Geography is far more than learning about maps and places. It is a dynamic subject that encourages learners to become **critical thinkers** who can analyse information, identify patterns, and evaluate complex issues. Learners develop the ability to investigate **cause-and-effect relationships**, helping them understand how one event or decision can impact people, communities, environments and economies locally and globally. Geography also helps learners make connections between the physical world and their everyday lives. Whether discussing water shortages, extreme weather events, migration, urban growth, or climate change, Geography demonstrates how environmental and social issues affect the choices we make, the communities we live in, and the opportunities available to us. An important aspect of Geography is developing **empathy and global awareness**. By studying different communities, and development challenges, learners gain a deeper understanding of diverse perspectives and the factors that influence people's lives around the world.

What Topics Will You Study?

- **Climatology:** Learners investigate weather and climate systems, including rainfall, temperature, droughts, floods, and climate change. These topics help us understand current environmental challenges and their impact on agriculture, water resources, health, and economic activities.
- **Geomorphology:** This section focuses on the Earth's physical landscapes and the processes that shape them. Learners study rivers, slopes, erosion, and landforms, gaining insight into natural hazards, environmental management, and land-use planning.
- **Population Studies and Development:** Learners explore population growth, migration, urbanisation, and levels of development across different regions. These topics help explain many of the social and economic challenges facing societies today and encourage learners to think about sustainable solutions.
- **Resources and Sustainability:** This section examines how people use natural resources such as water, energy, minerals, and land. Learners investigate the challenges of managing resources responsibly.

Geography and Future Careers

The knowledge and skills gained in Geography are highly relevant in today's rapidly changing world. Geography provides a strong foundation for careers in environmental-related-industries (law,



tourism, conservation, environmental management), sustainable building (construction, architecture), climatology, geology, marine biology, oceanography, disaster management, journalism, rural and urban development, travel and tourism, cartography, agriculture, geographical information systems (GIS), aviation and shipping.



History

Subject Head: Mr P Greenway

Offered as an elective subject

'If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday.' – Pearl Buck

History makes people aware of their place in society and as a global citizen. Through studying History, one gains insight into the world, how nations interact and what has made the world what it is today. History helps us understand people and societies by examining the struggles, failures and successes of our predecessors. It provides us with an identity which is essential for good citizenship. History allows us to learn about various cultures and equips us with understanding, compassion and tolerance so that we can become better moral citizens in society. Through this we learn how to examine ourselves and improve the world we live in.

The History curriculum across all grades is generally divided equally into world history and African or South African history and broadly spans from the 1600s to the 1990s. The table below highlights some of the main topics covered in Grades 10, 11 and 12.

Grade 10

European Expansion and Conquest from the 15th to 18th Centuries

The French Revolution

Colonial expansion and conflict in South Africa after 1750

Grade 11

Communism in Russia

Capitalism in the USA

Ideas of Race in the late 19th and 20th Centuries

South African Nationalism

Apartheid and resistance (1940s to 1960s)

Grade 12

The Cold War

Civil Society Protest in America

Civil Resistance in South Africa (1970s to 1980s)

Negotiations and the coming of democracy in South Africa (1990-1994)

Government of National Unity and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

History learners build critical and evaluative thinking skills that can be drawn upon across any number of professions and circumstances. Not only does History help to develop accurate and persuasive writing skills for learners, it also equips them to identify and critique persuasive and potentially misleading information when they are presented with it. This is an increasingly important skill in an age unavoidably impacted by social media and Artificial Intelligence.

Studying History prepares one for various career opportunities. The more obvious ones are: educators, professors, scholars, historical consultants, researchers, and writers. History students also make very



good journalists, archivists, librarians, lawyers, advocates, judges, archaeologists, philosophers, and politicians.

Most people overlook the value of a history major in preparing an intelligent person for a business career. Historians track historic trends, an important skill for those developing products to market or engage in corporate or financial planning. They also learn how to write persuasively, and this training gives them an edge in advertising, communications, media, and marketing.

Industries depend on an intimate knowledge of government policies and historical trends thus history majors have found their skills useful in extractive industries and public utilities.

Furthermore, the study of History develops:

- one's intellectual skills
- the ability to research and gather evidence
- analytical skills
- the ability to present a logical argument, both orally and in writing
- the ability to problem-solve
- The ability to write well

Who should consider taking the subject?

- Those who enjoy learning about people in society
- Those who enjoy learning about conflicts between cultures and countries
- Those who are competent readers and who read with understanding
- Those who write fluently
- Those who wish to work in the public sector.
- Those who wish to be educated and mature citizens.



Information Technology

Subject Head: Mr P McLachlan

Offered as an elective subject

The world is undergoing huge social and educational changes and we are witnessing a literal revolution ('4IR' or the Fourth Industrial Revolution) in the workplace. The World Economic Forum (WEF) expects a 40% change in the workplace in the next 15 years with the increased use of technology, with many existing job categories becoming obsolete and brand-new types of careers emerging. Information Technology (IT) seeks to equip pupils with the skills, knowledge attitudes and values needed to make sense of and prosper in this brave new world.

Broad overview:

IT is a very broad field. The subject focuses on both the practical skills and operational knowledge to examine the wide spectrum of IT which includes:

- Focusing on problem-solving and computational thinking skills in order to create, write or code programs ('apps') and information systems. This represents about half the course.
- Learning how to use modern communications technologies effectively.
- Understanding the complexities and implications of the increasingly virtual world we live in and how to be responsible citizens of this new world.
- How to harness computer technology to process vast amounts of data in order to solve problems and make quick but accurate decisions
- The basic workings of modern hardware and software in order to both solve problems and make judgments on the appropriate use and merits of these systems.

Who or why should you consider taking the subject?

- Everyone who enjoys persevering with and solving puzzles and problems.
- Anyone who prefers to be able to 'see what they are studying' as the biggest part of studying IT is practical.
- To 'future-proof' yourself for the world ahead. The skills, knowledge, values and attitudes needed for now and the future are integral parts of the subject.
- Career opportunities abound, especially for females, where there are not only critical shortages of IT practitioners in general but especially in terms of female representation.
- To develop skills that allow for a wide range of careers such as website developers, programmers, IT consultants, Network Administrators, to name but a few.

Some notes

- Note that Information Technology is a 'science' like Physical and Life Sciences. It has its origins in Computer Science.
- Computer Applications Technology (CAT) has a fair amount of overlap with IT but the approach is different in terms of using existing software (as opposed to creating new software) to solve problems.
- Not everyone is 'IT orientated' (as is the case with many other subjects). Mathematical ability (above 60%) is generally a strong pointer but not an absolute guide.
- The software (Delphi) is provided free of charge but can only be installed on a computer with Windows (not an iPad etc.).

It is highly recommended that learners have access to a Windows-based device with Delphi Community Edition installed at home to practice on. The IT lab is also available after school.



isiXhosa First Additional Language (FAL)

Subject Head: Miss L Timba

Offered as a First Additional Language choice with Afrikaans First Additional Language

isiXhosa is an indigenous South African language. The focus of studying isiXhosa is to build fluency and understanding of the spoken and written language, as well as an appreciation for the culture associated with the language.

Broad overview

The subject covers the following topics over Grades Ten to Twelve:

- Listening
- Thinking and reasoning
- Reading and viewing
- Speaking
- Writing
- Language structures

Who should consider taking the subject?

- It is compulsory to take a language on a first additional level. Collegiate offers either Afrikaans FAL or isiXhosa FAL.
- It is advisable to take the First Additional Language in Grades Ten to Twelve that has been studied in the GET phase.
- The reason for this is that in order for learners to become competent isiXhosa speakers, one focuses on the grammar and vocabulary.
- Certain degree courses require students to complete an indigenous language course.
- Exemptions from offering an additional language are available for recent immigrants.



Life Orientation

Subject Head: Ms A Parker

Offered as a compulsory core subject

Life Orientation is the study of the self in relation to others and to society. It addresses skills, knowledge, and values about the self, the environment, responsible citizenship, a healthy and productive life, social engagement, recreation and physical activity, careers and career choices. These include opportunities to engage in the development and practice of a variety of life skills to solve problems, to make informed decisions and to take appropriate actions to live meaningfully and successfully in a rapidly changing society. It not only focuses on knowledge, but also emphasises the importance of the application of skills and values in real-life situations, participation in physical activity, community organisations and initiatives.

Broad overview:

The subject contains the following six topics in Grades Ten to Twelve:

- Development of the Self in Society
- Social and Environmental Responsibility
- Democracy and Human Rights
- Careers and Career Choices
- Study Skills
- Physical Education

What are the benefits of studying Life Orientation?

It is a unique subject in that it applies a holistic approach to the personal, social, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development of learners. It also focuses on physical growth and development, as well as fitness and motor skills. This encourages the development of a balanced and confident learner who can contribute to a just and democratic society, be a productive member of society and the economy, and encourages an improved quality of life for all.

Learners will enhance their study methods and how they do in examinations if they apply the skills learnt in the classroom and applied in Life Orientation examinations.



Life Sciences

Subject Head: Mr R Marriott

Offered as an elective subject

The study of Life Sciences enables learners to understand themselves (from a physiological aspect) and the world around them (from an ecological aspect). By the end of Grade Twelve, they should be able to critically debate scientific issues, be aware of the value of conserving natural resources and understand the requirements of maintaining a healthy body.

There is a great deal of emphasis on scientific method, so Life Sciences is not merely knowledge recall. It requires learning and understanding, logical thinking, analysis and application of this knowledge. It is strongly recommended that learners who do not achieve above 60% for Natural Science in Grade Nine, not chose Life Sciences.

Broad overview

The FET Life Sciences curriculum covers four knowledge areas which are introduced in Grade Ten and built on during Grades Eleven and Twelve:

- Life at the molecular, cellular and tissue level which includes the study of DNA, cells, genetics etc.
- Life processes in plants and animals which explains how plants and animals work i.e. physiology
- Environmental studies which includes ecology, pollution and population studies
- Diversity, change and continuity which includes genetics and evolution

Who should consider taking the subject?

Those who wish to pursue career opportunities in:

- Medicine, including Nursing and all related fields
- Research industries in Biotechnology, Microbiology, amongst others
- Environmental fields, including Environmental Law and Environmental Science
- Marine Biology
- Agriculture



Mathematics

Subject Head: Mrs T Botha

Offered as optional core subject with Mathematical Literacy

Mathematics is known as the “Queen of Sciences” because it is needed for all science and technology. It plays an important role in everyday life, and applications of Mathematics cover a wide variety of fields such as Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Life Sciences, Medicine and Economics. Problems in these disciplines often give rise to new developments in Mathematics.

The study of Mathematics also develops a person’s ability to reason logically and to analyse a problem carefully. Unsolved problems provide unlimited opportunities for ingenuity and creativity.

Broad overview

The subject covers the following topics over the FET course:

- Functions
- Number Patterns, Sequences, Series
- Finance, Growth and Decay
- Algebra
- Differential Calculus
- Probability
- Euclidean Geometry and Measurement
- Analytical Geometry
- Trigonometry
- Statistics

Who should consider taking the subject?

- Those who have shown an ability in Mathematics with at least 60%+ in Grade Nine. This provides a solid foundation.
- Those with an interest in problem-solving, who can think in the abstract and reason logically.
- Those who intend pursuing a career path that involves Mathematics or requires Mathematics for entrance to tertiary study.



Mathematical Literacy

Subject Head: Miss N Muthayan

Offered as optional core subject with Mathematics

Mathematical Literacy is the application of basic Mathematical concepts applied to real life contexts. It is a fully designated subject and many career paths can be followed with Mathematical Literacy as a subject, e.g. Law (LLB), Nursing (BSc), Business Management (BCom) and Accounting (BCom Extended). Please ask Miss Muthayan for a comprehensive list.

Mathematical Literacy should not be viewed as an easier alternative to Mathematics. Rather it is a subject with a distinct focus that develops practical Mathematical skills and competencies. It equips learners with the knowledge and abilities they will apply in their careers, daily activities and personal financial decisions throughout their lives.

Mathematical Literacy will expose learners to the following subject content:

- Budgeting and personal/ business finance
- Understanding interest rates and loans
- Determining Income Tax
- Data Handling
- Interpreting graphs and statistics
- Maps and scales
- Managing everyday measurements and calculations.

Who should consider taking the subject?

- In the South African school system, Mathematical Literacy is designed for learners who need practical mathematical skills for everyday life, work and further study in fields that do not require advanced mathematics.
- Learners who find pure Mathematics very Challenging and are unlikely to meet the demands of the higher-level Mathematics curriculum.

However, learners should not choose Mathematical Literacy if they are considering careers or tertiary programmes that require Mathematics, including:

- Engineering
- Medicine
- Architecture
- Actuarial Science
- Most Commerce degrees with strong quantitative requirements
- Computer Science
- Many Science and Technology fields

Note that bridging courses are offered in some tertiary institution faculties which require specialized Mathematics.

The best candidates for Mathematical Literacy are learners whose career aspirations do not require pure Mathematics and who would benefit from developing strong, practical numeracy skills that they can apply confidently in everyday life and the workplace.



Music

Subject Head: Mrs G Agenbag

Offered as an elective subject

To stop the flow of music would be like the stopping of time itself – incredible and inconceivable –
Aaron Copeland

The Music Department is a vibrant department affording many learners the opportunity to participate in producing Music in various forms. Subject Music encourages critical thinking and develops many cognitive functions in the brain. Minimum practical requirement for music as a subject in Grade Ten is Grade Three (Trinity/Unisa/Royal Schools)

Broad overview

Subject Music is divided into four components and covers the following over the three-year course:

- Music History
 - Baroque to 20th Century style periods in Western Art Music
 - Sound production, orchestral instruments and the human voice
 - Popular Music and Jazz
 - Musical Theatre
 - Introduction to Indigenous African Music and other South African genres
 - The Music Industry
- Theory
 - Rudiments of music
 - Harmony, melody writing and compositional techniques
- Aural, Composition and Improvisation
 - Focuses on singing, clapping of rhythms, melody-writing (composition), the listening to and analysing of musical genres, analyses of musical scores, arranging of compositions for orchestral instruments, identifying instruments and improvisation
- Practical
 - Pieces and technical work will be assessed every term
 - An ensemble piece is also included in the repertoire
 - Two Practical Assessment Tasks are required and included in the curriculum
 - A minimum of an hour's daily practice is expected
 - Pupils are encouraged to play a Trinity Practical Examination each year

To consider when choosing Music as a subject:

- You will need good time management, planning, motivation and self-discipline.
- You will experience a therapeutic stress reliever in taking Music.
- You will develop many skills, such as teamwork and memory skills.
- You will build memories.



Physical Sciences

Subject Head: Ms B Mellet

Offered as an elective subject

Physical sciences encompass the study of non-living systems, covering areas such as physics, chemistry, astronomy, and earth sciences, and focusing on understanding the fundamental principles and laws governing the natural world. The two branches of Physical Sciences studied at school level are Physics and Chemistry.

Broad overview

Physics is the branch of science that studies matter, energy, and the fundamental forces of nature, exploring concepts such as motion, force, energy, waves, and the structure of atoms to understand the behavior and interactions of the physical universe.

Chemistry is the branch of science that explores the properties, composition, and behavior of matter, focusing on the interactions between atoms and molecules to understand chemical reactions, bonding, and the creation of new substances.

Physical Sciences require strong analytical skills, problem-solving abilities, mathematical proficiency, critical thinking, attention to detail, and effective communication skills to excel in physical sciences. A good work ethic is also crucial.

Who should consider taking the subject?

- Those who have a genuine interest in the Sciences, i.e. not to keep “options open” or to “appease others”.
- Those with sound language and mathematical ability.
- Those who have achieved 60% or higher in Mathematics, English and the Science component of Natural Sciences in Grade Nine.
- Those who have a strong work ethic – Physical Sciences requires daily practice even when no homework is given. Daily review of classwork is essential.
- Those who intend pursuing studies and careers in fields that require Physical Sciences. These include Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Chemical); Medicine (including MBChB); Pharmacy; Veterinary Science; Architecture; Geology; Physics; Chemistry; Biochemistry; Environmental Science; Meteorology; Materials Science; Agricultural Sciences; Food Science and Technology; and Astronomy. **A minimum of 60% in Grade Twelve is required to apply for these courses.**
- A learner who has elected Physical Sciences must take Mathematics, as required by the Department of Education. Should a learner struggle with Mathematics and wish to change to Mathematical Literacy, Physical Sciences will need to be changed too. However, at the end of Grade Eleven, only ONE subject can be changed for the Grade Twelve year. **Please keep this in mind when you make your decision.**



Visual Arts

Subject Head: Miss B Mashigo

Offered as an elective subject

Visual Arts focuses on Fine Arts (such as drawing, painting, printmaking etc.) and the translation of thoughts and expression into a visual medium. The subject also comprises Visual Culture Studies (the study of the visual expressions of different cultures and historical groups which explores the nature of art and how art mirrors society). Visual Arts offers a view on art, history and culture which is interesting and fascinating.

Broad overview

Visual Arts involves both practical work and the History of Art, with half the final marks allocated for History of Art and half for the practical component.

Practical work:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Installation
- Printmaking
- New Media
- Sculpture

History of Art:

- The elements of art, describing and analysing artworks, learning about the social and historical events that shaped specific societies and studying the paintings, sculptures and architecture from ancient to modern times and from International and South African sources.
- Requires an ability to look critically, interpret and respond to images in fluent written English.

Who should consider taking the subject?

- A learner must be genuinely interested in Visual Arts as it is an intensive and time-consuming subject.
- A learner must have a definite artistic ability in drawing, along with creativity, a willingness to experiment with different media and the commitment to work consistently on both practical and theoretical components of the subject.
- Those who wish to pursue careers such as:
 - Architecture
 - Fashion Design
 - Graphic Design/ Multimedia
 - Industrial Design
 - Interior Design
 - TV Production
 - Photography/ Digital Art
 - Fine Arts
 - Film
 - Anthropology, Archaeology, Heritage Studies



IT and CAT Comparison Table

Below is a comparison of the topics covered in IT compared with those in CAT. In a nutshell, the difference lies in the practical component: CAT works in programs such as Word, Excel etc while IT teaches you how to write the programs and do the engineering side of computing.

Topic Area	Sub-topics	
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
Solution Development	Algorithms and Problem Solving Introduction to Solution Development Application Development Software Engineering Principles	Word Processing Spreadsheets Databases Fourth Application
Systems Technologies	Introduction to Computers Hardware Software Computer Management	Concepts of Computing Hardware Software Computer Management
Communication Technologies	Networks E-communication	
Network Technologies		PANs LANs and WLANs
Internet Technologies	Internet World Wide Web Internet Services	Internet World Wide Web E-communications
Data and Information Management	Data Representation Database Management Database Design	
Information Management		Find and Access Data and Information Process Data and Information Present Solution
Social Implications	Legal Issues Ethical Issues Social Issues Environmental Issues Health Issues Computers and Society	Impact on Society Legal and Ethical and Security Issues Health and Ergonomic Issues Environmental Issues



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