



St Francis Xavier College

YEAR

8

Elective Subjects

Living the truth



Leading with courage



Learning for life



Contents

Introduction.....	3
Year 8 Curriculum.....	3
Applied Technology	5
Food and Textile Technology	7
Performing Arts.....	9
Visual Arts	11

Introduction

Year 8 Curriculum

Students in **Year 8** at St Francis Xavier College begin to have some choice in the subjects they study.

In addition to the broad educational grounding which the school will cover in “core” subjects, students will have the opportunity to pursue their studies in some practical areas which interest them. These subjects are known as “elective” subjects. The content for these subjects is drawn from the Australian Curriculum.

Throughout Year 8, all students will be expected to study:

- **Humanities** (Religious Education, English, Social Science: History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business and Information & Communication Technology)
- **Mathematics**
- **Science**
- **Physical Education & Health**
- **Languages** (continuation of Year 7 Language)
- Two other “lines” of study

In these two “lines” or “time slots”, students will have the opportunity to pursue other areas of interest without committing themselves to a particular course of study.

Elective Subjects

From the units offered, students will select two units for each semester. These units may come from any subject area offered. However, students will not be allowed to repeat any units.

Year 8 Subjects on Offer

Applied Technology

Elementary Electronics
Creative Craft
Wood Appreciation
Metal Appreciation
Technical Graphics (Semester 1)
Presentation Graphics (Semester 2)

Food and Textiles Technology

Textile Studies

Fun with Fabrics
Textiles 4 Teens

Food Studies

Entertaining & Hospitality
Tempting the Tastebuds

Performing Arts

Dance

Dance around the World (Semester 1)
Popular Dance Styles (Semester 2)

Drama

The Actors Toolbox (Semester 1)
Dramatic Styles for Stage and Screen (Semester 2)

Music

Music Practise (Semester 1)
Electronic Music (Semester 2)

Visual Arts

Art

Visual Art – 2D Studio
Visual Art – 3D Studio

Ceramics

Decorative Ceramics
Functional Ceramics

Things to consider in selecting units

When considering which units best suit, it is important that subjects which students find interesting and enjoyable are given a high priority. It is unwise to choose units because friends are also choosing them as the friends may be in different classes next year.

A "standard fee" is used to cover the costs incurred in these practical subjects. In 2017 this fee was \$356 for Year 8 students. Occasionally excursions and performances will take place which cost more than \$25 per student. These will be charged on a per event basis and are in addition to the standard elective fee incurred by each of the elective units given in the following pages. School socials, "uniform free" days, other fundraising activities and non-curriculum excursions will need to be paid for individually.

Another factor to bear in mind with any selection process is the fact that the school cannot guarantee which units run as student choices may exceed the available resources.

The question, "What will I do if I'm not able to do" must be thought about carefully.

If students are in any doubt about which units may or may not suit, it is important that they talk to subject teachers or the studies coordinator responsible for that unit.

Applied Technology

Unit Title: **Elementary Electronics**
Prerequisite(s): None
Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

In this unit students will gain a basic knowledge and understanding of electronic components and principles. They will apply some of these principles in the design and construction of basic circuits such as a continuity tester, L.E.D. flasher and a decision maker. Problem solving and the product design process will be used to construct other circuits such as a radio or wireless microphone.

Students will then advance to more complex projects where they will be constructing the circuit, designing and 3D printing an electronic product such as a burglar alarm.

Unit Title: **Creative Craft**
Prerequisite(s): None
Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

In this unit students will have the opportunity to work with several different materials including acrylic, wood and metal.

Creative Craft provides students with an opportunity to explore the use of brass and acrylic to compliment the fine characteristics of Camphor Laurel timber to enhance their project.

Students will use the design process to design and construct a desk clock to their own liking, incorporating all three materials: acrylic, wood and brass.

They may also be given the opportunity to construct a small project such as a trinket box using exotic timbers.

Unit Title: **Wood Appreciation**
Prerequisite(s): None
Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

In this unit students will be studying design and construction in wood. They will learn how to document and communicate design ideas through graphic techniques and work through a design process to develop their ideas.

After learning some construction processes and developing basic woodwork skills, they will be able to apply these skills to construct the toy they have designed.

Some of the projects may include: a wheeled toy, a magnetic paper holder or a puzzle.

Unit Title: Metal Appreciation
Prerequisite(s): None
Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

In this unit students will be studying design and construction using metal. They will learn how to document and communicate design ideas through graphic techniques and work through a design process to develop their ideas.

After learning some construction processes and developing basic metalwork skills through reading plans to make a junior hacksaw, students will use their newly acquired skills to construct jewellery and other small metal projects they have designed.

Practical work may include the construction of a small metal project from a plan, the design and fabrication of jewellery pieces, or a brass balancing ornament.

Unit Title: Technical Graphics (Semester 1)
Prerequisite(s): None
Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

This course introduces students to technical drawings produced by hand and using the computer. They will learn about both 2D and 3D drawings and produce computer models, which they can 3D-print in plastic, allowing them to prototype, and test their ideas.

Students will also complete a design project in either Architecture or Product Design and will learn about the design process, free hand sketching and research methods.

Exposure to Computer Aided Drawing and Design packages of an industry standard is a key element of this course. Students will find the use of video tutorials along with the freedom to design and create makes for a supportive and interesting learning environment.

Unit Title: Presentation Graphics (Semester 2)
Prerequisite(s): None
Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Students will be introduced to sketching and use drawing board equipment to produce visually accurate 2D and 3D drawings of household objects and subjects that interest them. They will also use vector drawing software to produce completed graphic design publications.

They will learn about colour, rendering and layout of presentation drawings in both perspective and orthographic styles.

Students will also research the life cycle and evolution of products and will undertake a design project in either Industrial Design or Graphic Design.

The design process is a key feature of all Applied Technology subjects and students will be taught how this can be applied to graphics production. Exposure to Graphic Design packages of an industry standard is a key element of this course.

Food and Textile Technology

Food Studies

<i>Unit Title:</i>	Fun with Fabrics
<i>Prerequisite(s):</i>	None
<i>Estimated Cost:</i>	Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Take the opportunity to have fun with fabrics, creating unique and interesting projects. Experiment with colours and textures as you design and make items of your choice. Students will have access to a variety of equipment to assist them as they learn exciting new techniques to apply to their projects. Have fun with fabric decoration and if you wish, combine beading techniques with quick and easy machine embroidery. This is a great unit for anyone who loves the creative process and wants to have fun experimenting with fabrics. Throughout this unit, students will be able to select from a variety of projects, eg:

- Pugglies/Softies/Creature features
- Silk painting
- Beanies and Scarves

<i>Unit Title:</i>	Textiles 4 Teens
<i>Prerequisite(s):</i>	None
<i>Estimated Cost:</i>	Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Learn the skills needed to make or alter trendy clothes and or accessories to enhance your wardrobe. This is a great unit for anyone who wants to learn the skills involved in making simple clothing items of their own choice.

There will be the opportunity for students to develop their creativity as they experiment with a variety of fabric decoration techniques to enhance their individual projects. The emphasis will be on further developing machine skills and also a variety of textiles techniques such as machine embroidery, dyeing or felting.

Throughout this unit, students will be able to make their own selection from a variety of projects like boxer shorts, hoodie, bags/hats, and a simple top.

Food Studies

Unit Title: **Entertaining and Hospitality**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

This unit introduces students to the basic concepts, skills and attitudes required to succeed in entertaining at home. It covers topics such as safety, hygiene, cooking methods, presentation of food and the use of kitchen equipment. At the end of the unit, an excursion allows students the opportunity to gain an insight into other aspects of the food industry. This is a great unit for anyone who wants to develop their food preparation and presentation skills.

Unit Title: **Tempting the Tastebuds**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Learn how to feel engaged and enthusiastic about food preparation. Students will learn how to incorporate new flavours and techniques into their cooking. The weekly practical lessons allow students to develop skills in basic food preparation and cooking. Challenge the tastebuds and experience new foods. Learn about the benefits of a great diet that includes lots of variety and packs a flavour punch. An excursion will allow students the opportunity to explore some of the latest food trends in the market place.

Performing Arts

Dance

Unit Title: **Dance around the World (Semester 1)**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description: Learn a variety of social and cultural dances from countries such as India (Bollywood dance), Italy, Ireland and Bali and investigate the importance and purpose of dance in these cultures. Students will work with their peers to choreograph their very own dance piece based on their interpretation of a popular poem. They will develop key performance and choreographic skills, learn about safe dance practices and will participate in a number of live performances for the College community.

Unit Title: **Popular Dance Styles (Semester 2)**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Explore the popular styles of hip hop, jazz and street dance through fun and engaging practical classes and theory-based activities. Students will develop technical and expressive skills using safe dance practices and they will have the opportunity to showcase their skills in class, for a live audience and through the performance of their own choreographed pieces.

Drama

Unit Title: **The Actors Toolbox (Semester 1)**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Learn about play building and performance through improvisation exercises, warm-up games and activities. Experience of and experimentation in such areas as characterisation, music, speech and movement will expand students' understanding and use of verbal and non-verbal communication skills. The technical aspects of sound, lighting, sets, props and costumes will also be investigated.

This is an exciting unit where the elements of discovery and self-directed learning are important.

Unit Title: **Dramatic Styles for Stage and Screen (Semester 2)**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Have the opportunity to experiment with variety of Dramatic styles which may include clowning, puppetry, masks, mystery, comedy, tragedy, soap opera, fantasy and thrillers.

Students will investigate these topics through practical and theoretical means. From their experiences students gain information about stagecraft and dramaturgy specific to particular disciplines. The students will then work towards a final drama production.

Music

Unit Title: **Music Practise (Semester 1)**

Prerequisite(s): *None*

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief Description:

Develop your skills on an instrument or instruments of your choice and build on your understanding of the elements of Music. Students are encouraged to gain skills to play in groups, bands and ensembles. There will be a chance to explore song writing techniques and to develop a beginning knowledge of computer music programs.

Unit Title: **Electronic Music (Semester 1)**

Prerequisite(s): None

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Explore how tone production works on a variety of different instruments and learn how to transform samples into organised sound. Students will learn about the importance of key to provide works of substance that avoid unnecessary clashes. They will learn how to identify problematic key clashes in produced music. There will also be opportunity to develop skills on an instrument or instruments of their choice, build beginning DJ skills and create basic electronic music tracks.

Visual Arts

Visual Art courses in Year 8 provide students an opportunity to extend upon the art making concepts and techniques introduced in Year 7. All courses will develop student's skills and confidence regardless of ability level, not only in their use of art media, but also in their ability to express themselves.

Unit Title: **Visual Art – 2D Studio**

Prerequisite(s): None – all skill levels are encouraged

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

2D Studio offers students the opportunity to explore a variety of two-dimensional art forms. A range of techniques associated with drawing, painting and printmaking will be covered, with a strong focus on experimentation and skill development. A variety of concepts will be explored ranging from illustration to portraiture and object study. Excursions may also be offered to supplement the student's practical work. In addition, students studying *2D Studio* will be eligible to have their artworks shown in the annual College Exhibition as well as participate in numerous art competitions.

Unit Title: **Visual Art – 3D Studio**

Prerequisite(s): None – all skill levels are encouraged

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

3D Studio offers students an introduction to the exciting world of sculpture. Many mediums and techniques will be covered and these may include modelling, wire/plaster construction, papier maché, hebel block/ soapstone carving and found object sculpture. A range of themes will be explored and students may be provided the opportunity to attend excursions to further develop their understanding of this dynamic art form. Students studying *3D Studio* will also be eligible to have their artworks shown in the annual College Exhibition. This is a great unit for anyone who would like to try something different and is ready for a hands-on challenge.

Ceramics

Are you not really the drawing or painting type but still enjoy creating things? Then Ceramics is the area for you. Both of the courses listed below encourage students to develop their own ideas and creativity in a three dimensional form.

Unit Title: **Decorative Ceramics**

Prerequisite(s): None – all skill levels are encouraged

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Decorative Ceramics enables students to make a variety of ceramic forms that serve a decorative purpose. This may include decorative table sculptures, stylised animal forms, totem poles or expressive masks. Students may have the opportunity throughout the semester to use the pottery wheel in addition to their normal class work. Students studying *Decorative Ceramics* will be eligible to have their artworks shown in the yearly College Exhibition.

Unit Title: **Functional Ceramics**

Prerequisite(s) None – all skill levels are encouraged

Estimated Cost: Standard elective fee

Brief description:

Functional Ceramics is a very popular course that offers students the ability to construct a variety of ceramic forms that can be used in everyday life. These may range from teapots, coffee or tea mugs, a varied range of containers, garden fountains as well as large bowls that are made from moulds. Students may have the opportunity throughout the semester to use the pottery wheel in addition to their normal class work. Students studying *Functional Ceramics* will be eligible to have their artworks shown in the yearly College Exhibition.

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