STUDY REVIEW PLAN VCE APPLIED COMPUTING

Background

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) is the statutory authority responsible for the development, approval, monitoring, evaluation and review of curriculum and assessment for the VCE and its studies. The Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) is the statutory authority responsible for the accreditation of the VCE and its studies, including periods of accreditation.

The current VCE Applied Computing Study Design is due to expire on 31 December 2024.

In 2022, it was determined that VCE Applied Computing would undergo a minor review in 2023.

Typically a minor review may involve:

* refinement and/or clarification of aspects of an area of study or outcome including key knowledge and key skills
* reorganisation of knowledge and skills between units, areas of study or outcomes
* introduction of some new content as key knowledge
* removal of some content to manage workload issues identified in monitoring and evaluation.

Terms of Reference

The review is conducted according to the Terms of Reference and the [*Principles and procedures for the development and review of VCE studies*](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/vce/Principles_Procedures_VCE_review.docx)*.*

The Terms of Reference for the VCE Applied Computing review can be found in **Attachment 1.**

Study Writing Panel

A Study Writing Panel for VCE Applied Computing will meet regularly during 2023 to develop a draft study design proposal.

The Study Writing Panel consists of up to three members and is selected by the Curriculum Manager for their high level of expertise and experience in the study or related disciplines, and their capacity to make timely and effective contribution to the work.

Study Review Timeline

The schedule for the review can be found in **Attachment 2.**

Consultation

Consultation is an important part of the VCAA’s curriculum and assessment development and review processes. Consultation informing a review process is broad, and consultation material is freely available to members of the public.

Consultation on the proposed VCE Applied Computing Study Design will be conducted from 7 August to 4 September 2023. The draft study design and consultation questionnaire will be available for consideration on the [VCE Applied Computing](https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/vce/vce-study-designs/computing/Pages/Index.aspx) study page during that time.

To register your interest for the public consultation, please complete the [registration form](https://vcaa.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_86QKAjLUrq5zMEe).

Further information

For further information, please contact the Curriculum Manager of the review:

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VCE Curriculum Unit

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**Attachment 1:** Terms of reference

VCE APPLIED COMPUTING WRITING PANEL

Terms of Reference (Minor Review)

The VCE Applied Computing Writing Panel will undertake the review of the VCE Applied Computing Study Design, and will develop a draft study design proposal in accordance with the VCAA’s *Principles and procedures for the development and review of VCE studies*. The role of the panel is advisory and the proposed study design will be subject to endorsement by the Senior Secondary Curriculum and Assessment Committee (SSCAC) and approval by the Board of the VCAA.

When reviewing VCE Applied Computing, the Writing Panel is required to consider the following in relation to the existing study:

* any study-specific issues identified prior to commencing the review, including:
* enrolments and enrolment trends by unit and year level (including gender, sector and location)
* satisfactory completion rates by unit (including gender, sector and location)
* reports from the state reviewer, examination panel chair and chief assessor
* feedback from stakeholders including teachers and students
* evidence of uptake of any optional components with the study
* data from the school-based assessment audit
* grade distributions for all graded assessments
* relevant data from the external assessment program
* data from monitoring and evaluation activities.
* any proposed changes to the study
* the extent to which current research and developments in the discipline are appropriately reflected in the study
* the coherence of the overall structure of the study and consistency with its aims
* the role and configuration of the prescribed documents in relation to the study:
  + Data Analytics – Software tools and functions
  + Software Development – Programming requirements
* the implications of any proposed changes for the assessment program
* in relation to the specific study, the appropriate use of ICT in school-based and external assessment
* how the study enables broad participation and the achievement of excellence
* teacher and student workload
* sources of gender, cultural or socioeconomic bias
* any specific facilities and resources required to deliver the study, including implications for the professional learning requirements for teachers.

Consultation

In the development of the proposal, the Writing Panel will ensure that it consults with key interest groups including:

* teachers and others on the VCE Study Register, interested in being consulted on VCE Applied Computing
* the State Reviewer, Chairperson of the Examination Panel and Chief Assessor
* Digital Learning and Teaching Victoria (DLTV)
* Australian Computer Society (ACS)
* the university sector
* teacher networks including Edulists.

The consultation draft study design and questionnaire will be made available on the VCAA website during the consultation period.

**Attachment 2:** Timeline for the VCE Review

VCE APPLIED COMPUTING

REVIEW TIMELINE

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| Milestone | Date |
| VCE Applied Computing approved by the VCAA Board to undergo a minor review in 2023 | August 2022 |
| Schools notified in the *VCAA Bulletin* of Applied Computing Review | September 2022 |
| VCE Study Writing Panel selected | September 2022 |
| Study Writing Panel commenced work | November 2022 |
| Public consultation on proposed VCE Applied Computing study design | 7 August to 4 September 2023 |
| Feedback from the public consultation and Independent Reviewer considered by the Study Writing Panel | September/October 2023 |
| VCAA Board approval of revised study design | December 2023 |
| VRQA approval of the accreditation period of the revised study design | December 2023 |
| Study design published for 2025 implementation | Term 1, 2024 |