

# Official Notices

August 1995 — Vol 4 No 6

## IMPORTANT

The information below is the Board's official advice to schools of the decisions it has taken, and should be acted upon as such. Please ensure the *Official Notices* are circulated to all teaching staff.

### Topics covered by Official Notices in this issue



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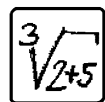
#### English

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#### Human Society and Its Environment

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- Distinction Courses 1996 — Expression of Interest.....BOS 94/95



**1996 HSC Special Provisions for Students with Disabilities**

**BOS 87/95**

The Board advises that, in 1995, students in Year 11 with known disabilities will be able to apply for special examination provisions for the 1996 Higher School Certificate examinations.

The relevant application forms will be dispatched to all schools in mid August. These forms will be due back at the Board by 15 September 1995.

**Contact no:** (02) 9925 8325  
(02) 9925 8117  
(02) 9925 8268



**Advice to Principals Regarding Outside Tutors of HSC Classical Ballet**

**BOS 88/95**

Principals should refer in the first instance to the requirements for study with an outside tutor as stated in the Board of Studies' *Assessment, Certification and Examination Manual* (Section 11.9.5).

The following advice is provided to assist principals in their selection of ballet tutors who may be eligible to teach the Years 11–12 Classical Ballet Syllabus. Information relates to the components of the syllabus, tutor's credentials and responsibilities.

• *Components of the Stage 6 Classical Ballet Syllabus*

The syllabus consists of a number of components:

- Performance
- Composition/Choreography
- Ballet Appreciation/History/Repertory Studies
- Anatomy/Physics of Ballet

The outside tutor may choose to teach the syllabus in its entirety or engage other tutors to teach various components. In either case, full responsibility for the teaching of the syllabus rests with the outside tutor approved by the school principal.

• *Outside tutor's credentials*

Experience in teaching students at the Intermediate dance level is recommended (Advanced level for 3 Unit students). Familiarity with the Years 11–12 Classical Ballet Syllabus is essential.

In addition, the principal, in evaluating the tutor's suitability to teach the syllabus, may

consider the following points:

- whether the tutor is, or has been, registered with a recognised ballet/dance school;
- number of past ballet pupils entered for Ballet examination at the Intermediate level or above;
- number of past students, if any, entered for HSC Classical Ballet.

Principals should ensure that credentials are provided in relation to all components of the syllabus, whether they be those of the designated outside tutor or other tutors who will be engaged.

• *Outside tutor responsibilities*

The outside tutor is responsible for the coordination of the assessment program (confirmed in *Board Bulletin*, Vol 4 No 2, 1995) which takes into account syllabus weightings and assessment requirements for the HSC and for maintaining liaison with the principal or a nominated representative of the principal for the duration of the course.

The tutor is also responsible for ensuring that:

- studio spaces are adequate in size and have a suitable non-slip floor;
- studio spaces are adequately ventilated;
- studios have dressing rooms, musical equipment and video facilities as required;
- studios have adequate facilities and resources for teaching the theoretical components of the syllabus.

**Effective:** from 1995  
**Contact no:** (02) 9925 8161



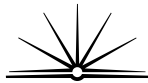
**Advice to Principals re Study of 2 Unit Dance with an Outside Tutor**

**BOS 89/95**

*The principal may give approval for a student to study additional courses with an outside tutor provided that the principal has determined that the proposed tutor is, by qualification and/or experience and/or expertise, a suitable person to teach the Board syllabus. Assessment, Certification and Examination Manual (Section 11.9.5)*

While it is the intention that the Years 11–12 2 Unit Dance Syllabus be taught within the school framework, some situations may require the consideration of an outside tutor.

Consideration should be given to the tutor's knowledge, resources, experiences and practical methodology in the following areas:

**Core Performance**

- Safe Dance (concepts and application)
- Modern Dance Technique and Style

**Core Composition**

- The Nature of Composition
  - Originality
  - Personal Style
  - Intent
  - Abstraction
  - Motif
- The Elements of Construction/Craft of Composition
  - Forming
  - Transitions
  - Logical Development
  - Unity

**Core Appreciation**

- The History of Dance in Australia
- Australian Dance Identity
- Specific Australian Choreographers and Companies
- The Study of Set Works

**Major Study** — In ONE of the 3 Core Areas

**Options** — The study of ONE of the following:

1. An Introduction to Dance Notation
2. An Introduction to the Science of Dance
3. An Introduction to Dance and the Arts
4. An Introduction to Dance and the Media
5. An Introduction to Dance Production

**Outside Tutor Responsibilities**

The outside tutor is responsible for the coordination of the assessment program (*Board Bulletin*, Vol 4 No 2, 1995) which takes into account syllabus weightings and assessment requirements for the HSC and for maintaining liaison with the principal or a nominated representative of the principal for the duration of the course.

The tutor is also responsible for ensuring that:

- studio spaces are adequate in size and have a suitable floor;
- studio spaces are adequately ventilated;
- studios have dressing rooms, musical equipment and video facilities as required;
- studios have adequate facilities and resources for teaching the theoretical components of the syllabus.

**Contact no:** (02) 9925 8154

**Visual Arts Practical  
HSC Marking**BOS  
90/95

The 1995 Visual Arts HSC Practical Corporate marking will take place at the RAAF Stores Depot, Chisholm Road, Regents Park (entrance near Kirkham Street).

Schools should have already received notice of whether their artworks are to be *itinerantly* or *corporately* marked.

Schools scheduled for *itinerant* marking are reminded that artworks in the following categories must be submitted for *corporate* marking: Wearable, Photography, Textile and Fibre, Jewellery, Film and Video, and Integrated Study.

Further detailed information concerning the particular submission details will be sent to schools during August.

**Contact no:** (02) 9925 8225  
(02) 9925 8323

**English 3 Unit  
Prescribed Texts,  
1996–1997**BOS  
91/95**Elective (d): Special Study of Yeats**

The Board advises that the prescription of poems to be studied in this elective is as published in the document entitled *1996–97 HSC Examination, English Prescribed Texts*, viz:

- (d) Special Study of Yeats** YEATS, William Butler. 'The Wild Swans at Coole', 'Easter, 1916', 'The Second Coming', 'A Prayer for my Daughter', 'Sailing to Byzantium', 'Leda and the Swan', 'Among School Children', 'An Acre of Grass', 'Long-legged Fly', 'The Circus Animals' Desertion' — in any suitable edition, eg

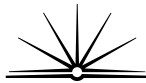
*W B Yeats* / edited and with an introduction by Timothy Webb. Penguin Books, 1991 (Penguin Poetry Library).

OR the edition

YEATS, W B. *Selected Poetry*. Macmillan, 1974.

Please note: 'Byzantium' is **not** a prescribed poem.

**Contact no:** (02) 9925 8266  
(02) 9925 8276



**Amendments to the  
Higher School  
Certificate Specimen  
Examination Papers in Ancient  
History for 1995 and thereafter**

**BOS  
92/95**

Teachers are reminded that the specimen examination papers in Ancient History have been developed to indicate to teachers the format and question styles that may be expected in the HSC examinations in 1995 and thereafter.

*2 Unit Personalities and their Times*

- *Page 2.* The instruction 'No more than ONE question must be answered from any ONE Society' should be deleted. Candidates are to attempt FOUR questions in the paper, TWO from each Section. The questions chosen must be from AT LEAST TWO of the following areas: Egypt, Near East, Greece, Rome.
- *Page 23.* Question 23, Cleopatra VII, should be placed in Part G — Greece, not Part H — Rome.

*2 Unit Personalities and their Times AND 2/3 Unit (Common)*

- *Page 13 (Personalities and their Times) and Page 12 (2/3 Unit).* The question title 'Roman Society in the Early Empire — Town Life and the Forum' should be changed to 'Roman Society in the Early Empire'.

**Effective: Immediately**  
**Contact no: (02) 9925 8218**

- No more than 20% of the 2 Unit assessment is to be based on the 2 Unit Preliminary course.
- No more than 30% of the 3 Unit assessment is to be based on the 3 Unit Preliminary course.

**Examination Specifications**

Questions in the 2 and 3 Unit HSC Examinations based on HSC course topics may require assumed knowledge and skills from the respective Preliminary courses or earlier. In view of the Pathways philosophy, long, in-depth, stand-alone questions on the Preliminary course will not be asked.

There can be no more than the equivalent of two questions based on the respective Preliminary courses in the 2/3 Unit (Common) Mathematics Paper and the 3 Unit (Additional) Mathematics Paper. Questions from the Preliminary courses will be short and represent a minor part of a total question.

Marks can be awarded for demonstration of knowledge and skills from the respective Preliminary courses (or earlier) when required for questions on the HSC course. That is, questions based on the Preliminary course can be asked when they lead in to questions based on topics from the HSC course. Marks from these lead-in questions will not be counted in the two question allowance from the Preliminary course.

**Contact no: (02) 9925 8103**  
**(02) 9925 8233**



**Assessment and  
Examination of the 2/3  
Unit Mathematics  
Courses under Pathways**

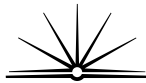
**BOS  
93/95**

The Board wishes to advise the continuation of the arrangements for the assessment and examination of the 2/3 Unit Mathematics courses which were approved for the 1995 HSC (BOS 56/94, BOS 63/94). These arrangements have been approved for the life of the present syllabuses.

The arrangements are reiterated below.

**Assessments**

- Assessments for the HSC course must not commence until after the completion of the Preliminary course.

**Distinction Courses  
1996 — Expression of  
Interest**BOS  
94/95

Eligible students are invited to submit an Expression of Interest to participate in the 1996 Distinction Courses Program.

Distinction Courses are high-level HSC courses for gifted and talented students. The courses are delivered by universities through distance education mode including compulsory residential schools. They consist of 2 units of study which are additional to the required 11 units of HSC study but can be counted towards the calculation of the TER. This may mean that a student will be doing 7 or 8 units of HSC courses in the final year, having already completed 3 or 4 units a year in advance.

Distinction Courses provide an opportunity for a type of study that HSC students may not gain otherwise. They are offered in areas outside the range of existing HSC courses, thus providing a broader perspective across Key Learning Areas and preparation for university study.

In 1994, the first year of the program, the University of New England implemented the Philosophy Distinction Course while Charles Sturt University was responsible for Cosmology (Bathurst) and Comparative Literature (Wagga Wagga). These arrangements are continuing in 1995 and are expected to be the same in 1996.

As a general rule, a student may undertake only one Distinction Course.

Prospective Distinction Course students may be interested to know that almost 80% of the 1995 Distinction Course students received final assessments at Distinction or High Distinction level from their universities. Further, all students were awarded TERs in excess of 97 and gained entry to their chosen university courses.

The criteria applied for selection to the program are:

1. Completion of one HSC course at the highest possible level (in most cases 3 Unit level) a year ahead of the student's cohort.
2. Presentation for the HSC examination in the course the year prior to the year in which the Distinction Course is to be undertaken.
3. Outstanding achievement in the accelerated course at the HSC examination. Placement in the top 5% of the course candidature is generally required.

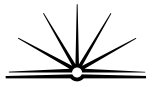
4. Evidence of a pattern of high achievement in all courses undertaken in 1995. Copies of the student's academic reports in all subjects will be required.
5. A report from the student's school that clearly indicates the suitability of the student for Distinction Course study and includes an assessment of the student's:
  - specific strengths
  - ability as a self-motivated independent learner
  - research skills
  - communication skills
  - relevant achievements within the school community
  - relevant achievements in the wider community.

It should be noted that there are no prerequisites that apply specifically to Philosophy, Comparative Literature or Cosmology.

Formal application for entry to a Distinction Course usually follows the submission of an Expression of Interest and subsequent attendance at a Distinction Courses Information Day, which is planned for Monday, 27 November 1995. The receipt of an Expression of Interest will serve as a preliminary indication of interest to attend the Information Day.

An Expression of Interest to undertake a Distinction Course in 1996 can be registered by completing and returning the following form to the Board of Studies no later than 8 September 1995.

**Contact no:** Sandra Sleeman  
**Tel (02) 9925 8102**  
**Fax (02) 9957 2215**



BOARD OF STUDIES

Distinction Courses 1996
Expression of Interest

Following discussions with my school principal about the requirements for entry to an HSC Distinction Course, I wish to register my expression of interest in undertaking a Distinction Course in 1996.

Preferred Course (delete two to indicate your tentative choice)
• Philosophy
• Comparative Literature
• Cosmology

Personal Details
SURNAME .....
GIVEN NAMES .....
HOME ADDRESS .....
DATE OF BIRTH..... GENDER M/F TEL NO .....
FAX NO.....

School Details
NAME OF PRINCIPAL.....
NAME OF SCHOOL.....
ADDRESS .....
TEL NO ..... FAX NO .....

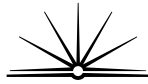
Study Details
1995 Courses
Title of Course Unit/Level of Study Year of Study (Prelim or HSC)
Proposed 1996 Courses
Title of Course Unit/Level of Study Year of Study

I understand that this response also registers my interest in attending a Distinction Courses Information Day to be held in Sydney on 27 November following the end of the HSC examination program.

Signed.....

Principal's Comment .....
Signed: ..... Date: .....

Please return by 8 September 1995 to Ms Sandra Sleeman, Senior Policy Officer, Policy, Planning and Research Branch, Board of Studies, PO Box 460, North Sydney, NSW 2059. Fax (02) 9957 2215.



## Cumulative List of all Official Notices to date for 1995

**School Certificate Reference Tests**

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**Creative Arts**

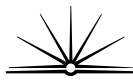
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