

Media Release

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Countdown to HSC written maths exams

Monday marks the start of HSC written maths exams.

Mathematics and Mathematics Extension 2 will be held on Monday October 24, General Mathematics on Tuesday October 25, and Mathematics Extension 1 on Wednesday October 26.

“Even though maths is not a compulsory HSC course, it remains one of the most popular,” said the chief executive of the Board of Studies NSW, Carol Taylor.

“In 2011 there are 55 103 students are enrolled in at least one HSC maths course.

“Almost 17 000 students are enrolled in Mathematics while more than 32 000 are enrolled in General Mathematics, giving it the largest enrolment outside of the only compulsory HSC course, English.

“The Mathematics course provides students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of high level maths that is needed for university studies in areas such as life sciences, finance, technology, and education.

“General Mathematics is designed to equip students with knowledge and skills that can be applied to everyday activities and in the workplace. It creates a basis for future pathways in vocational training and is key to some tertiary studies, ranging from business to nursing.

“Extension courses are for students who show a high ability during their secondary schooling. The mathematics extension courses provide students with the opportunity to develop a thorough understanding of further aspects of mathematics for tertiary studies, including in mathematics itself, the physical sciences, and engineering,” Ms Taylor said.

As well as the maths exams, on Monday October 24 there are written exams in Agriculture and 20 languages including Armenian, Polish and Vietnamese.

On Tuesday October 25 there are also written exams in Classical Greek, Chinese, German, Electrotechnology, and Textiles and Design.

On Wednesday October 26 there are also written exams in Arabic, and Studies of Religion.

This year there are 72 391 students enrolled in at least one HSC course. Most will sit for at least one of 117 different written exams being held in more than 760 exam centres between October 17 and November 11.