Social Science

The Social Science faculty at Great Lakes College is committed to delivering curriculum content that is relevant to our 21st Century Learners. Our subjects include Geography, Commerce and Volunteering.

Geography

In Geography, all Year groups begin their studies by targeting geographical skills combined with numeracy. This topic includes interpreting a variety of resources including tables, graphs and maps with the application of specific geographical map reading skills.

In Years 7 and 8 students study Global Geography. Year 7 students study countries and continents, ecosystems such as coral reefs, and the relationships between people and environments. Year 8 study threatened habitats, the differences between rich and poor, globalisation and tourism through case studies of Madagascar and India.

In Years 9 and 10 studies focus upon Australian Geography. In Year 9 students learn about Australia’s unique environments and communities and the natural hazards which affect Australian communities. In Year 10 students learn about Coastal Management and Land and Water Management. They also study Australia’s Foreign Aid links with our neighbours and the past steps and future of Australia’s reconciliation with Indigenous Australian’s.

All Year groups will also partake in a variety of fieldwork activities. Tasks include the evaluation of waste management, tourism, the impacts of climate on environments and a coastal management study. Through participation in these activities students will have the opportunity to work in groups to apply their learning and fieldwork skills. They will also use technology to record and analyse their results.

Students also have the opportunity to compete in the annual National Geography Competition.

Commerce

Commerce is an elective subject offered at the beginning of Year 9. It is a two year course of study. This subject is designed to teach students about the commercial world in which we live. It includes studies of law, consumer choice, rights of employees, banking, investing, economics, independent living and much more.

To assist student learning technology is used regularly to access current information and resources. Students also use technology to compete in several national competitions. These include the Australian Stock Market Game and the Charles Sturt University Small Business Competition.

The skills learnt in Commerce are invaluable to student life-long learning as the topics and concepts are relevant to daily life.

Volunteering

This elective is also offered at the commencement of Year 9 and is a two year course.

Students investigate and participate in many charitable organisations, learning about civics and citizenship through their studies and participation of this course.
Wellbeing

The Wellbeing team is focussed upon the development and maintenance of student emotional wellbeing with the aim to support learning. The Wellbeing team includes the Head Teacher Wellbeing, Year Advisors, Boys and Girls Advisor, Learning and Support Teachers and Counsellors.

The Wellbeing team meets regularly to discuss student needs. In doing so we access and develop student centred activities to meet the needs of individuals and groups. This includes reward excursions, Police Youth Liaison Officer talks and the Year 7 Rainbow Day and Boys to Men activities.

All staff at Tuncurry Campus are focussed upon the maintenance of student wellbeing to maximise student achievement.