



Issoudun Learning Program

2027

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Introduction

Issoudun (Year 9)

The Year 9 program has a special name - Issoudun - in recognition of this pivotal year in our students' learning journey. Issoudun is the town in France where Father Jules Chevalier founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. The decision made by Father Chevalier nearly 150 years ago touches our lives today and provides an opportunity to continue to pursue excellence in the education we offer to our students.

All Issoudun students study the regular Victorian curriculum in addition to two exciting learning programs and one residential experience which operate simultaneously in four-week blocks.

- *Je Suis* – meaning ‘I am’ – students engage in an independent and collaborative research project relating to their place in an evolving Melbourne.
- *Nous Sommes* – meaning ‘we are’ – provides imaginative and engaging opportunities to present the Victorian curriculum content through workshops, excursions, and immersion days.
- *Hartzer* – a residential program at the Hartzer Campus located in Burradoo, NSW.

Hartzer Residential Experience

The four-week Hartzer residential experience located in Burradoo, NSW, is an integral component of the Issoudun program and allows students to thrive in an environment distinct from the main campus, fostering academic and personal growth. Students celebrate their giftedness, grow in faith, embrace their learning, grow emotionally, develop independence, build positive relationships, venture beyond their comfort zones, develop confidence and teamwork, connect with our OLSH history, and continue to grow in belief that OLSH girls can do anything. Students not at Hartzer undertake the *Je Suis* and *Nous Sommes* programs.

Issoudun Course Requirements

Our Issoudun students complete six core subjects for the full year:

- Religious Education
- English
- Humanities
- Mathematics
- Health and PE
- Science

In addition to the core subjects, students select six elective subjects to be studied as semester units – three per semester. Students are required to complete a minimum of one Semester of languages unless they have been involved in the Literacy Support Program during years 7 and 8. Students have the option to study language for the whole year with a view to taking it on as a subject in year 10 and potentially into the VCE.

Elective subject disciplines for Issoudun students are:

Table	
Languages	Visual Communication Design
Dance	Design and Technology (Textiles)
Drama	Digital Technologies
Music	Food Studies
Photography	Sport Science
Visual Art	

Dance: Choreography

Are you interested in.....

Dance Performance and Choreographic Development?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

engage in choreographic processes to create and perform a Group Dance Work for a live audience. Through a Composition Task, students explore the relationship between choreographic intention, music, and movement choices to communicate meaning effectively. Students also develop their dance appreciation skills by analysing the work of a professional choreographer, examining how intention influences movement vocabulary and describing how key movement phrases are used within the work.

Topics Studied
Group Dance Work
Dance Analysis
Composition Task

Dance: Styles and Techniques

Are you interested in.....

Dance Performance and Technique Development?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop technical and expressive skills through the performance of both group and solo learnt dance works across a variety of dance styles. The theory component of the course requires students to research and analyse a dance style of their choice, exploring its origins, movement vocabulary, and costumes, while developing an understanding of its historical and cultural context.

Topics Studied
Group Dance Work
Dance Style Assignment
Learnt Solo Dance Work

Digital Technologies

Are you interested in.....

learning how to unleash the power of IT in solving real-world problems, designing and coding modular programs, and learning about future innovations and sustainability?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

decompose real-world problems to design, code, test, and evaluate innovative digital solutions using the Python programming language; Learn how artificial intelligence and robotics advances are evolving how we work and interact; Enhance design, coding, and problem-solving skills.

Topics Studied
Coding
Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

Drama: Workshop for a Dramatic Performance

Are you interested in.....

furthering your public speaking abilities; creativity and imagination; teamwork and collaboration; critical thinking skills; communication skills; time management.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

use creative skills to develop and perform pieces of theatre largely devised by you. Theatre styles such as *Commedia dell'Arte* and Realism are explicitly taught and you are then asked to use your skills to present a performance to the class.

Topics Studied
<i>Commedia dell'Arte</i>
Naturalism/Realism

Drama: Musical Theatre

Are you interested in.....

the captivating world of Musical Theatre and the art of performance?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

learn the conventions of Musical Theatre, diving deep into expressive skills and techniques crucial for character development and audience engagement. You will explore a range of activities, including presenting monologue/duologue performances from iconic Broadway Musicals, designing and performing your own jukebox musical with songs of your choice, and analysing live theatre performances for insights and inspiration.

Topics Studied

Musical Theatre Essentials: Master the essential conventions of Musical Theatre

Performance Showcase: Present monologue/duologue performances from beloved Broadway Musicals

English

Are you interested in.....

In Year 9 English, students read and view a variety of texts, such as short stories and films. Students learn how to effectively write - analytically, reflectively and creatively.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

prepare for the VCE School Assessed Coursework. It is a mandatory subject. It equips students with the foundations necessary for the successful completion of VCE English, Literature OR both subjects.

Topics Studied

A close analysis of short stories, such as Ray Bradbury or Roald Dahl

Analysing the persuasive power of advertisements

Oral Presentations

Poetry

Film study

Food: Café Culture

Are you interested in.....

creating café style foods, food presentation and styling.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop food preparation and presentation skills and create your own Café experience.

Topics Studied

Designing and preparing a pop-up café menu

Exploring the potential of eggs

Designing and presenting decorated cupcakes

Food presentation and garnishing techniques

Exploration of preparation processes and cooking techniques

Food: Tastes of the World

Are you interested in.....

food from around the world and how to prepare it?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

explore a range of ingredients and create dishes that follow a global theme.

Topics Studied

Australia: how to use indigenous ingredients

Asia: create your own curry paste

Europe:- Italy, Greece and everywhere in between

Americas

Research the food culture of a country of your choice

Humanities

Are you interested in.....

civics, economics, geography or history?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

explore topics across civics, economics, geography and history. The focus of the humanities program throughout the Issoudun year is to examine causes and consequences of the Industrial Revolution, experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Islanders during British colonisation the experiences of different groups over time including migrants to Australia, the causes of World War One and experiences of soldiers and women on the homefront. We examine patterns of biomes as well as factors that contribute to food security, and interconnections across the globe, such as supply chains. We turn to introducing consumer and financial literacy, as well as building a resume for a first job. At Hartzler, we visit civic institutions including, among others, the Commonwealth Parliament and Old Parliament House, and consider how participation works in our national representative democracy.

Topics Studied

History: Australia: 1750 – 1914; World War One

Geography: Biomes and Food Security; Interconnections

Civics: government and democracy

Economics: consumer and financial literacy (completed during the Je Suis programme)

Canberra cross-curricular inquiry (completed during the Hartzler Residential Programme)

Languages

The study of Languages is one of the key learning areas of the Australian Curriculum. Chinese and Italian courses help students develop communication skills, intercultural understanding and global awareness, while also strengthening critical thinking, literacy and problem-solving skills.

Students develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through a range of engaging activities and text types, including conversations, blogs, role-plays and presentations.

All Year 8 students are required to continue studying their chosen language in Year 9. Students may choose from the following options:

Students may choose from the following options:

Full Year Language Course

- Chinese
- Italian

OR

One Semester Language and Culture Course

- Chinese Language and Culture
- Italian Language and Culture

The full-year course provides students with the opportunity to build a stronger foundation in language knowledge and communication skills. It also keeps open the option of continuing language study in Year 10 and beyond. Students who choose the one-semester Language and Culture course may find it more challenging to continue their language studies in later years.

Students are encouraged to discuss their options with their language teachers and families before making a final decision.

Languages: Chinese Full-Year Course

Are you interested in.....

learning how to communicate in one of the world's most widely spoken languages? Exploring Chinese culture and developing skills that will benefit you in an increasingly globalised world?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

build your confidence in speaking, listening, reading and writing Chinese through engaging and practical activities; explore a variety of topics connected to everyday life and contemporary Chinese culture; and develop valuable communication, literacy, critical-thinking and intercultural skills.

Topics Studied

Housing and living environments

Colours and clothing

Shopping

Chinese festivals

Foundations of Chinese philosophies and cultural values (studied in English)

Assessment

Listening comprehension

Reading comprehension

Writing in Chinese in response to written text

Participating in spoken exchanges and presentations in Chinese

Cultural studies task in English

Languages: Italian Full-Year Course

Are you interested in.....

learning a vibrant and expressive language while discovering the rich traditions, lifestyles and cultures of Italy? Developing communication skills that will help you connect with people and cultures beyond Australia?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop your skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Italian through interactive and meaningful learning experiences; engage with a range of authentic texts and cultural topics while building confidence in communicating in Italian and strengthen transferable skills such as critical thinking, communication, and intercultural understanding.

Topics Studied

My personal world

Leisure activities

Immigration (in English)

Regions of Italy, landmarks and cuisines

Italian Immigration to Australia (studied in English)

Assessment

Listening comprehension

Reading comprehension

Writing in Italian in response to written texts

Participating in spoken exchanges and presentations in Italian

Cultural studies task in English

Chinese Language and Culture – One-Semester Course

Are you interested in.....

developing practical Chinese communication skills while exploring aspects of Chinese culture and contemporary life? Learning through creative, engaging and inquiry-based activities?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

further develop your Chinese listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through practical activities; explore selected aspects of Chinese culture, traditions and contemporary society; and build intercultural understanding through research, collaboration and creative projects.

Topics Studied

Housing and living environments

Shopping

Chinese festivals

Foundations of Chinese philosophies and cultural values (studied in English)

Study of a Chinese film

Assessment

Listening and reading comprehension tasks in Chinese

Short written and spoken tasks in Chinese

Cultural inquiry or research project in English

Language and cultural worksheets based on the film studied

Individual or group presentation

Language and cultural worksheets based on the film studied

Italian Language and Culture – One-Semester Course

Are you interested in.....

developing practical Italian communication skills while exploring the people, traditions and contemporary culture of Italy? Learning through creative, engaging and inquiry-based activities?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

further develop your Italian listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through practical activities; explore selected aspects of Italian culture, traditions and contemporary life; and build intercultural understanding through research, collaboration and creative projects.

Topics Studied

What Italian Means to Me

Revision of basic Italian grammatical structures and commonly used phrases

Italian migration to Australia

Regions, landmarks, food and notable people of Italy

Study of an Italian film

Assessment

Digital poster of what Italian means to the student

Revision worksheets and worksheets based on the film studied

Folio of completed work

One-page personal story

Music: Mixing Music & Sound Production

Are you interested in.....

remixing, mastering, sampling or creating your own music? This is your gateway to all things Music technology and sound production.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

dive deep into DAW (Digital Audio Workstations) and begin exploring and creating original music or mixing pre-existing works from other artists.

Topics Studied

Recording (Audio Takes and Tracking)

Mixing/Mastering and Editing

Remix/Sampling

Podcasting

Music: Performance

Are you interested in.....

what it's like to be a performing artist? Do you want to learn to be more confident as a performer?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

grow your confidence as a performer and upskill as a musician. We will dive deep into what skills you will need to make music easier and more fun.

Topics Studied

Performance Technique/ Ensemble Performance

Musicianship (Aural Development/ Theory Upskill)

Music Composition (Song Writing)

Masterworks (Music Analysis/ understanding what makes songs sound good)

Photography: The Bright Side

Are you interested in.....

taking your own photographs, editing photographs and being creative?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

learn how to use a DSLR camera and editing skills using Adobe photoshop.

Topics Studied
Miniature Worlds
Movement
Appropriation

Photography: The Dark Side

Are you interested in.....

learning how photographs were taken before digital cameras were invented?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

learn how to use a SLR film camera, develop your own film and photographic techniques.

Topics Studied

Photographic Techniques

'Everyday Abstracted'

Sports Science: Coaching

Are you interested in.....

developing skills about coaching sport and then applying your knowledge to coach others?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

this subject gives the opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills needed to become a sports coach. Students will develop an understanding of how people learn, develop and refine skills. Students will practice coaching skills by planning and conducting skill development sessions with each other, Yr 7 students and primary school children.

Topics Studied
Skill Acquisition
Sport Coaching
Sports Umpiring (if time permits)

Sports Science: Sports Trainer

Are you interested in.....

learning your bones and muscles? Or the assessment and management of sport injuries?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

learn how the skeletal and muscular systems work together to produce movement. Students will investigate common sports injuries and ways to prevent, treat and rehabilitate them.

Students will visit an elite rehabilitation and recovery center.

Topics Studied
Skeletal System
Muscular System
Sport Injuries
Recovery Methods

Textiles: Garment Construction

Are you interested in.....

creativity, design, fashion and trends, fabrics and garment construction.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop creative and design skills, master construction and finishing techniques to produce a garment and have better understanding of fibres and fabrics.

Topics Studied

Design process skills & techniques (Folio)

Fashion Drawing

Fabric/ Design based investigation

Production of garments (Production)

Textiles: Sustainable Fashion

Are you interested in.....

sustainability, recycling, upcycling, creativity, design, trends and garment construction.

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop creative and design skills, master construction and embellishing techniques to re-purpose a garment.

Topics Studied

Design process skills & techniques (Folio)

Fashion Drawing

Sustainability Investigation

Production of garments (Production)

VCD: Architecture & Interior Design

Are you interested in.....

designing and drawing highly imaginative and innovative products? Are you interested in designing your own original radical room using Photoshop and Illustrator?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop creative and design skills, master construction and embellishing techniques to re-purpose a garment.

Topics Studied

Radical wallpaper for interior design

Architectural explosion! Radical room architectural drawing (manual perspective and digital drawing)

Respond and Interpret

VCD: Product & Advertising

Are you interested in.....

3D printing your design of a perfume/cologne bottle and creating your own brand for advertising?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

develop skills using the SketchUp program to 3D print your design. Create your own branding for a swing-tag/label for the perfume bottle and use the branding on promotional material (tote bag).

Topics Studied
Perfume bottle
Tote bag
Swing-tag

Visual Art: Express Yourself with Sculpture and Paint

Are you interested in.....

working like an artist and exploring the expressive use of materials in painting and sculpture?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

be inspired by your pet or your favourite animal and morph it from reality to abstraction; Create an expressive free-standing sculpture.

Topics Studied

Artsy Animals (painting from reality to abstraction)

Fantasy Creature (expressive sculpture)

Visual Art: Make your Mark with Drawing and Print

Are you interested in.....

drawing, designing original compositions and creating a lino print using a printing press?

This subject provides the opportunity to.....

improve your observational and tonal drawing skills. It also gives you a chance to experience the world of printmaking through the creation of a limited edition lino print. You will also have an opportunity to learn about how artists work.

Topics Studied
Observational Drawing
Respond and Interpret
Printmaking



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