

## NIC Foundation Program

### Course Descriptions

#### FBIO001 Biology

This module is designed to develop a broad scientific knowledge of the living world. It will focus on concepts relating to biological structure, function, diversity, distribution, genetics, and interactions of living organisms.

#### FBUS100 Accounting

This module is designed to provide a broad understanding of accounting systems today. Upon completion, students will possess basic knowledge and skills, theoretical and practical, to comprehend and appreciate the need and purpose for accounting in society, to use the accounting system to record financial data and report financial information. Students should also be able to utilize the knowledge gained at this level of study, and adapt such knowledge into further study and learning at Diploma level.

#### FBUS103 Economics

This module is designed to provide students with a broad understanding of theoretical Micro and Macroeconomic concepts and recognition of the *relevance and importance* of Economics to today's society. Students will be equipped to *apply* these concepts to a modern market economic system. They will be able to *identify* basic economic issues and problems and apply policies to overcome these problems. Students will develop skills and confidence to *explain* individual and firm decision-making and be equipped with a basic understanding and ability to explain government policies that influence the workings of a modern economy like Australia, and its relation to the global marketplace.

#### FBUS104 Mathematics

This module is designed for students who require a general mathematics background suitable for studies in Business, health sciences and Computing/IT courses. It includes basic arithmetic, statistics, algebra, functions and their graphs, geometry, trigonometry, growth and decay.

#### FBUS105 Statistics

This module is designed for students to develop basic statistical concepts, specifically skills and knowledge required to collect, present, analyze and interpret numerical data. Students will develop broad factual, theoretical and technical knowledge using computer software (MS Excel™) and/or other technological resources such as Casio or similar (scientific calculator with bivariate capability-LR mode) or graphics calculator to do most of the computational work. The module emphasises statistical literacy and reasoning which are necessary to develop cognitive, technical and communication skills that are required for decision making in areas such as business, industry and government for the meaningful interpretation of statistical information and results. It discusses also the use and abuse of statistics presented in the media.

#### FBUS107 Introduction to Computing

The purpose of the module is to develop and demonstrate specialised knowledge and skills in computer concepts. The students will develop broad factual, technical and theoretical knowledge using the most common workplace software (MS Word™, MS PowerPoint™, MS Excel™ and MS Access™) from the Microsoft Office Suite. Reinforcing computer literacy skills is necessary to develop cognitive, technical and

communication skills that are required to identify, analyse, compare and act on routine and non-routine workplace tasks. Sharing resources and accessing information are vital in today's academic and professional environment.

#### FBUS110 Legal Studies

This module is designed to provide an overview and understanding of the Australian Legal System, its common law heritage, and modern statutory developments. It investigates the need for law in society and the ways in which laws are made and applied. Students will investigate how the laws of contract and negligence are applied, and the impact such laws have on Australian businesses, industry, service providers and daily life applications. Upon completion, students will have requisite knowledge and skills (theoretical and practical), to explain the purpose for law/regulation in society, recognise situations requiring legal advice, and suggest likely solutions to problems or potential threats. This module will provide a foundation for further study at Diploma level.

#### FCHE001 Chemistry

This module is designed to introduce students to the study of matter and its interactions which provide a link with other branches of natural science. Students will gain an appreciation of the impact of chemical knowledge and technology on society. This Chemistry module is designed for students who wish to study engineering, physical sciences or health sciences at a tertiary level.

#### FCOM010 Introduction to Academic Communication I

This unit responds to the need to develop reading and listening skills that will provide a basis for successful academic achievement and effective engagement in academic, business and social environments. Students will improve these skills through exploring and analysing current topics and issues. This unit is designed to complement writing skills' development in Introduction to Academic Writing as preparation for future subjects.

#### FCOM011 Introduction to Academic Communication II

The purpose of this module is to develop students' written language skills through exploration of two key academic writing genres and production of sophisticated academic writing. You will analyse key linguistic and organisational aspects of comparative and contrastive texts, and cause and effect texts in particular, and then produce your own pieces of writing. The importance of tertiary academic skills including planning, organisation, and integration of academic language, paraphrasing, summarising, and application of referencing conventions is strongly emphasised to effectively prepare you for written assessments at a tertiary level.

#### FCOM100 Information Design

This module is designed to provide students with a broad overview and practical understanding of the purpose of desktop publishing and the role of the desktop publisher. Students will apply this knowledge to explore and consider the role of the desktop publisher using graphical and textual information from a variety of perspectives. This will include, advertising and promotion of the students own skills to prospective clients who are also the audience. Students will also consider and interpret the needs of specific clients and the clients' particular audience to promote and advertise the skills and abilities of others. To do so, students will use software tools to create, view and apply the principles and elements of design to produce print and electronic media. Emphasis will be placed on how to create a message using cultural and social iconography, the psychology of colour, use and placement of text and or images relevant to a known audience. Upon completion of this module students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a variety of software to demonstrate an understanding of the principles and elements of design in a variety of contexts.

#### FCOM101 Programming

This module is designed to enable students to acquire broad factual, technical and theoretical knowledge of concepts in Java programming for as preparation for higher education studies and/or supervised workplace environments. Students will develop fundamental practical skills in writing Java programs for professional and academic applications. They will be able to undertake problem solving activities for routine and non-routine tasks. This will include fault-finding, program debugging and program maintenance in a known range of contexts within established parameters.

#### FCOM106 Creative Cultures

This module is designed to develop and extend students' understanding of the technical and cognitive aspects of creativity and how it applies to the production and consumption of media. Students will work to assess and analyse creative items as well as generate their own creative output.

#### FCOM200 Academic Communication Skills I

This module is designed to develop an understanding of the principles and practices related to communication in an academic and professional environment. Students will apply this knowledge to independently produce oral and written communications which are cohesive and coherent. Students will develop language skills from word and sentence level upwards, with an emphasis on accuracy in vocabulary choice, sentence structure and text organisation. Students will develop skills to: listen to and read professional and academic materials; identify, analyse and critically evaluate text types; and, recount, explain, and discuss in oral and written formats. They will also have an understanding of how to participate in the classroom and engage with relevant university services.

#### FCOM201 Academic Communication Skills II

This module is designed to develop students' ability to interact, participate and communicate effectively in an academic and professional environment. This includes basic forms of verbal, non-verbal and graphic communications skills. Students will develop appropriate communication skills and processes for written and verbal communication skills such as essays and oral presentations for the relevant environments. Students will develop research skills to identify, analyse, compare relevant sources, synthesise and apply valid information to meet specific needs. Students will be able to adapt and apply cognitive and critical thinking skills to present information from a range of sources to the needs of an academic and professional environment.

#### FHBI001 Human Biology

The purpose of the module is to develop and demonstrate specialized knowledge and skills in the physiology and anatomy of the human body. The students will develop cognitive skills to identify, analyse and compare a range of biological concepts. This knowledge and understanding of the main bodily systems with the associated biological concepts will form the basis of specialist technical skills, scientific awareness and appreciation of the human body to be used in an academic and semi-professional context. These specialist skills can then be incorporated into areas of limited responsibility and working under supervision.

#### FICS001 Intercultural Studies

This module is designed to provide students with an understanding of cultural diversity and its value in contemporary multicultural societies in order to effectively interact, participate and communicate in an increasingly global environment. Students will be given opportunities to investigate and reflect on their own culture as well as on contemporary issues in the Australian culture. The implications of living and studying in a

multicultural country will be explored along with dimensions of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian cultures.

#### FINT001 Information Technology

Upon completion of this unit students will be able to critically analyse business cases and develop needed skills to solve problems and recommend solutions using appropriate technology. Additionally, students will be able to understand and relate the role of technology and systems in organisations and society in general.

#### FMTH001 Advanced Mathematics I

This module consolidates background in Real Numbers and Algebra and broadens knowledge of Geometry, Trigonometry and Functions to prepare students for calculus for academic and professional purposes. Students will use critical thinking and cognitive skills to identify, analyse, compare and assess mathematical concepts in order to apply them to technical and engineering problems.

#### FMTH002 Advanced Mathematics II

This module consolidates background in Calculus and prepares students for further calculus studies for academic and professional purposes. Students will use critical thinking and cognitive skills to identify, analyse, compare and assess mathematical concepts in order to apply them to technical and engineering problems. This is a Mathematics module specifically for students who wish to study Engineering, Physical Sciences, Mathematics or related courses at a tertiary level.

#### FMTH010 Essential Mathematics

This module is designed for students who require an introductory mathematics course which covers mathematical skills relevant to degrees requiring a basic level of mathematical knowledge and ability. Suitable for studies in Business, Computing, Nursing, Health Sciences and Science courses. It includes arithmetic, fractions, decimals, percentages, algebra, equation solving and units of measurement.

#### FSCN100 Health Science

This module develops broad factual, technical and some theoretical scientific knowledge of the physical world with a focus on understanding and investigating general scientific concepts associated with mathematics, chemistry, and physics. The module also provides students with an introduction to problem based learning.