



Why should I pick E.I. in 2022?

If you intend to head to uni after Year 12, studying VCE E.I. will mean you are better prepared for the 'independent research' subjects found in a range of Bachelor degrees.

The VCAA consulted with lots of Australian universities when developing the E.I. study design, with the goal of creating a subject that provides students with the skills needed for success at the tertiary level.



"It encourages you to step out of your comfort zone. Through these challenges, my skills developed. I could approach my other Year 12 subjects with a unique perspective, and it made the transition between VCE and university easier"

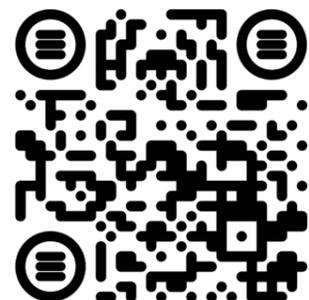
Madison Schenck
2015 VCE Extended Investigation alumna

What kind of student is E.I. for?

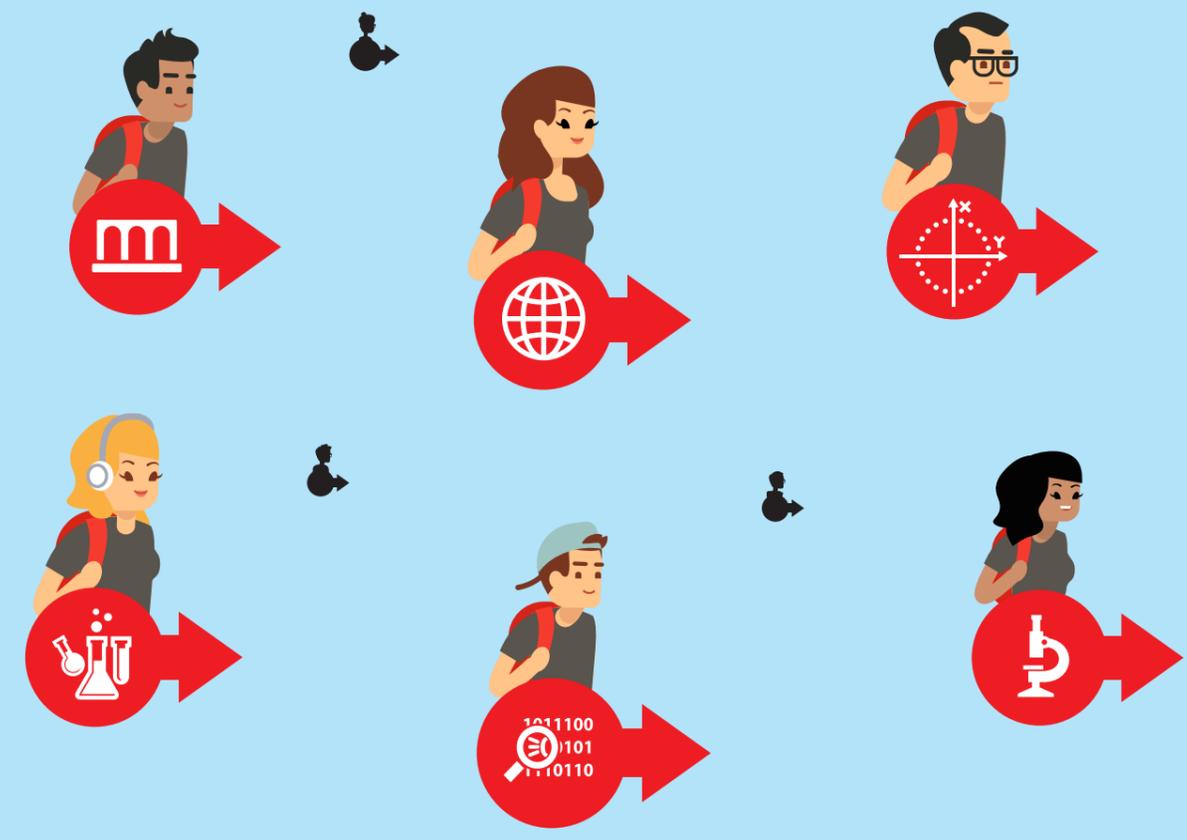
E.I. is a unique VCE subject in that you do not need extensive knowledge in a particular discipline and can undertake research into any field of interest. If you are an independent thinker who would like to develop your knowledge and understanding in an area of extended research of interest to you, then this is your subject.

If you enjoy working independently and you are self-motivated, then you will find this subject gives you the opportunity to engage in inquiry-based learning, pursue an academic interest and focus on a research project for an extended period. As such, it requires a degree of passion, self-motivation and self-organisation. E.I. is a 'Unit 3 / 4 only' subject; there is no Unit 1 and 2 in this study.

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A SUBJECT LIKE NO OTHER



What is Extended Investigation? (E.I.)

In 2022, NGSC will offer a new VCE subject, Extended Investigation. If you are interested in university-level research, then VCE Extended Investigation is for you.

E.I. students undertake a self-directed investigation into an area of personal interest over the course of one school year. There is no subject-specific prescribed content; instead, you learn the skills of inquiry, research, analysis and critical thinking while investigating a topic or subject that YOU find interesting.

What do E.I. students learn?

As an E.I. student, you will learn about all aspects of the research process, including:

- ✓ What constitutes a good research question and how to develop one that is ethical, robust and practical
- ✓ How to conduct a literature review, to situate your research in what's already known on this topic
- ✓ Research project management and how to work within the limits that time and resources impose
- ✓ A broad range of academic research methods, then how to gather independent data in response to your research question and how to analyse this.
- ✓ Skills in presenting, communicating and defending your research findings.



How is E.I. assessed?

E.I. is a fully scored subject and students complete a range of school-based and externally assessed tasks, including:

- A written Research Question Rationale and Research Plan
- An online Critical Thinking Test
- Two extended Oral Reports, including Q&A segments from the assessment panel
- A written Report that follows tertiary research report conventions.

There is no final written VCAA examination for VCE Extended Investigation, which is a subject that is scaled up.

What kinds of topics could I research?

Pretty much anything you are interested in! Of course, your research question must be ethical and you cannot research something that is already an assessment task in another VCE subject, but other than that the only restrictions are time and money.

To give you some examples, here are some research questions studied by past VCE E.I. students:



How has Japanese cultural identity been portrayed in the American film industry since 2000?



Does daily washing with camel's milk soap reduce the symptoms of psoriasis and eczema?



How are women portrayed in pop music videos and does this influence adolescent girls' views about gender roles?



What are the effects of ultraviolet irradiation on diseased canola seeds?



What change of attitude towards speeding whilst driving do the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) ads have on young male and female drivers?



What is the effect, if any, on middle school students' test results when they listen to music when studying?



What is the effectiveness and reliability of a spring pendulum in comparison to a passive pendulum in reduction of side-to-side (lateral) movement at resonant frequency of a scale-model of the Eureka Tower in Melbourne?

