



STUDYING MATHEMATICS FOR THE HSC AND BEYOND

Information for Students and Parents

The Mathematical Association of NSW (MANSW) is the not-for-profit professional body for mathematics educators of students of all ages. MANSW has compiled the following information to assist students in making the very important choice of mathematics course for Years 11 and 12.

Mathematics forms part of a 'well-rounded' education. It is not compulsory in Years 11 and 12, but MANSW believes that the study of mathematics at any level provides people with skills that can be applied to numerous situations.

Students are advised to choose a mathematics course that is appropriate to their interests and abilities and will provide a solid foundation on which to enter the workforce or further education.

The current options are:

Year 11 (Preliminary)	Year 12 (HSC)
No mathematics	No mathematics
Mathematics General	Mathematics General 1 or Mathematics General 2
Mathematics 2 Unit	Mathematics 2 Unit
Mathematics 2 Unit and Mathematics Extension 1	Mathematics 2 Unit and Mathematics Extension 1
Mathematics 2 Unit and Mathematics Extension 1	Mathematics 2 Unit and Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2

Students who are intending to go to university to study finance or any kind of STEM degree (Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics) should choose at least Mathematics 2 Unit and possibly include Mathematics Extension 1 in Years 11 and 12.

Mathematics General will not prepare you for a Science, Medicine, Engineering or Mathematics degree.

Some universities offer mathematics bridging courses or Foundation Mathematics for students who have not studied enough mathematics at school. These courses are advertised on the websites of the universities and are typically completed in the first year of university. Students who do bridging or foundation courses in their first year accrue extra fees, spend additional years at university and consequently may suffer a loss of income.

Students who complete Mathematics 2 Unit or Mathematics Extension 1 in Years 11 and 12 are better equipped to deal with university courses with mathematical requirements.

Students should consult their teachers, parents and /or careers advisor before choosing options for Years 11 and 12.

Students are advised to refer to the University Admission Centre (UAC) guide to ascertain the 'assumed knowledge' and 'recommended studies' for the university courses they are considering.