

ALEXANDRA BAKER

APPLIED SCIENCE/DIETETICS, LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Senior School Subjects

- Year 10: English, Youth Ministry/CEPD, Global Health, Science, French, Mathematical Methods Units 1 + 2 Early Advancement.
- Year 11: English, Religion, French, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematical Methods Units 3 + 4 Early Advancement.
- Year 12: English, French, Chemistry, Biology, Sociology

Why did you choose these subjects? Chemistry was a prerequisite for my course, and Biology was recommended but I also enjoyed it. My interest-based selections were Psychology, Global Health, French and Sociology. I really enjoyed these subjects and a lot of the content is relevant to my course now and French was useful for travel. I wanted to do the Early Advancement program to have a 'back-up' of sorts. Mathematics was a good option for me and significantly reduced my workload in Year 12. Mathematical Methods was recommended for my course.

What resources did you use to choose subjects? I had a pretty clear idea of the field I wanted to work in (health) so I looked at different courses at different universities to check the prerequisites and also the recommendations for a few of the professions I was interested in. I spoke to my current teachers about the subjects I was concerned with (Chemistry and French) to make sure I wasn't biting off more than I could chew and also the teachers of the prospective subjects to see what was involved and expected of me.

I also spoke to other students who had already taken the subject to see what they thought of it, what they recommended as a study tool, how long they studied for daily etc. The Senior School Information Evening was really helpful, especially when choosing an elective. You get to ask questions and see what is offered across the board and speak to the people you need to. Definitely worth it!

What is your course like? First year is a partial health science course so you get to meet people studying other allied health disciplines. The subjects offer a broad content (to cater to everyone) but this will be built on in subsequent years and it prepares you for the workload. Biology features heavily in physiology and anatomy and chemistry was also a big part. Second year becomes more specific to the course you're studying and for me, this has definitely been more interesting! I can see how the content is applicable to practice which keeps me interested and motivated.

What do you love about your course? I find my subjects really interesting and my lecturers are really passionate. I love that I can see the content in practice, even in second year, and there are so many different avenues I could explore after graduation.

How did your senior school subjects prepare you for your course? My science subjects definitely provided the framework for most of my subjects to date. A lot of what I have studied this year has included and built on Units 1-4 of Biology, Chemistry and Psychology. English teaches you to write coherent essays and 'wow' the assessors, and in general your subjects encourage organisation and consistent work, which I have found are vital skills!

Course information: Bachelor of Applied Science/Master of Dietetic Practice, La Trobe University, <http://bit.ly/29y26V1>