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Senior School Subjects

- Year 11 – Literature, Chemistry, Religion, Mathematical Methods Units 3 + 4 Early Advancement, Music, Japanese
- Year 12 – English, History, Politics, Music, Japanese



Why did you choose these subjects? In Years 10 and 11 I chose the subjects that would open as many doors as possible, since I hadn't yet decided what course I wanted to do. Then in Year 12 I decided to choose the subjects I was best at and most interested in. Although I still hadn't decided what course I was going for, I was fairly sure I wasn't going down the Maths/Science road, so I dropped Chemistry.

When you're picking subjects try to look into what prerequisites are needed for any courses you might be interested in (the College Career Adviser is great for that) but also try and pick what you enjoy and what you're good at. Year 12 is only unpleasant if you've picked subjects you hate just because they get scaled up.

What resources did you use to choose subjects? After going to a few university open days I leafed through a few courses that looked interesting and checked the prerequisites. I also went to the Senior School Information Evening and spoke to teachers and past students about each subject to get an idea of what they involved and whether they would be interesting. I would definitely recommend choosing subjects that you like and are good at regardless of whether or not they get scaled up. In the end it really makes no difference.

What is your course like? So far I have found it to be extremely interesting which has surprised me as I was very uncertain when I applied for it. The law side of it is all about critical and philosophical thinking. For my first assignment, we had to sit in on a court hearing and write about what works and doesn't work about the court system. You're encouraged to think for yourself and not just memorize what someone teaches you. I would definitely recommend doing a double degree (Arts/Law or Commerce/Law etc.) instead of a law degree alone.

The arts subjects break up it up really nicely. I can pick whatever subjects I am interested in and that way I am doing two law subjects and two subjects of my own choosing per semester instead of four law subjects, which I would find quite draining. And a double degree only takes one more year than a single degree

What do you love about your course? I have enjoyed using my brain in a different way. I have more freedom in how I approach my assignments and the lecturer's value critical thinking and thoughtfulness above structure. In criminal law, we learned about a lot of really weird cases and the legal and philosophical reasoning that judges used to deal with the issues they raised. It's way more than just learning what the law is and applying it.

How did the subjects at school prepare you for your course? They prepared us to meet deadlines and to work hard. I did History Revolutions in Year 12 and then chose a history subject as part of my arts degree and found it to be easier than what we did in high school. I think most people would agree that studying at university is a lot easier than Year 12. You have a lot more freedom, a lot more time and it's less competitive.

Course information: Bachelor of Laws (Honours)/Bachelor of Arts, Monash University, <http://bit.ly/1Pe63ZI>