



AQUATIC PRACTICES

Applied Senior Subject

Aquatic Practices provides opportunities for students to explore, experience and learn concepts and practical skills valued in aquatic workplaces and other settings. Learning in Aquatic Practices involves creative and critical thinking; systematically accessing, capturing and analysing information, including primary and secondary data; and using digital technologies to undertake research, evaluate information and present data.

Aquatic Practices students apply scientific knowledge and skills in situations to produce outcomes. Students build their understanding of expectations for work in aquatic settings and develop an understanding of career pathways, jobs and other opportunities available for participating in and contributing to aquatic activities.

Projects and investigations are key features of Aquatic Practices. Projects require the application of a range of cognitive, technical and reasoning skills and practical-based theory to produce real-world outcomes. Investigations follow scientific inquiry methods to develop a deeper understanding of a particular topic or context and the link between theory and practice in real-world and/or lifelike aquatic contexts.

By studying Aquatic Practices, students develop an awareness and understanding of life beyond school through authentic, real-world interactions to become responsible and informed citizens. They develop a strong personal, socially oriented, ethical outlook that assists with managing context, conflict and uncertainty. Students gain the ability to work effectively and respectfully with diverse teams to maximise understanding of concepts, while exercising flexibility, cultural awareness and a willingness to make necessary compromises to accomplish common goals. They learn to communicate effectively and efficiently by manipulating appropriate language, terminology, symbols and diagrams associated with scientific communication.

The objectives of the course ensure that students apply what they understand to explain and execute procedures, plan and implement projects and investigations, analyse and interpret information, and evaluate procedures, conclusions and outcomes.

Workplace health and safety practices are embedded across all units and focus on building knowledge and skills in working safely, effectively and efficiently in practical aquatic situations.

Pathways

A course of study in Aquatic Practices can establish a basis for further education and employment in the fields of recreation, tourism, fishing and aquaculture. The subject also provides a basis for participating in and contributing to community associations, events and activities, such as yacht and sailing club races and competitions and boating shows.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students should:

- describe ideas and phenomena
- execute procedures
- analyse information
- interpret information
- evaluate conclusions and outcomes
- plan investigations and projects.

Structure

Aquatic Practices is a four-unit course of study. This syllabus contains six QCAA-developed units as options for schools to select from to develop their course of study.

Unit option	Unit title
Unit option A	Aquatic ecosystems
Unit option B	Coastlines and navigation
Unit option C	Recreational and commercial fishing
Unit option D	Aquariums and aquaculture
Unit option E	Using the aquatic environment
Unit option F	Marine vessels

Assessment

Students complete two assessment tasks for each unit. The assessment techniques used in Aquatic Practices are:

Technique	Description	Response requirements
Applied investigation	Students investigate a research question by collecting, analysing and interpreting primary or secondary information.	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Multimodal (at least two modes delivered at the same time): up to 7 minutes, 10 A4 pages, or equivalent digital media• Written: up to 1000 words
Practical project	Students use practical skills to complete a project in response to a scenario.	Completed project One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Product: 1• Performance: up to 4 minutes Documented process Multimodal (at least two modes delivered at the same time): up to 5 minutes, 8 A4 pages, or equivalent digital media