

School administrators, Heads of Learning Area – Science and Teachers of Biology ATAR Year 12 are requested to note for 2027 the following minor syllabus changes. The syllabus is labelled as ‘For teaching from 2027’.

Biology | ATAR Year 12 | Summary of minor syllabus changes for 2027

The content identified by ~~strike through~~ has been deleted from the syllabus and the content identified in *italics* has been revised in the syllabus for teaching from 2027.

Unit 3

Science as a Human Endeavour

- ~~technological developments in the fields of comparative genomics, comparative biochemistry and bioinformatics have enabled identification of further evidence for evolutionary relationships~~
- *bioinformatics involves the construction, maintenance and use of databases to analyse the relationships in biological data, such as amino acid sequences or nucleotide sequences. DNA and protein sequences can be mapped and analysed to compare genes within a species or between different species*
- ~~conservation planning to maintain viable gene pools includes consideration of~~
 - ~~biogeography~~
 - ~~reproductive behaviour~~
 - ~~population dynamics~~

Unit 4

Science as a Human Endeavour

- ~~susceptibility of urban areas to epidemics and pandemics of infectious disease can be due to~~
 - *increasing migration and global travel*
 - ~~high population density, variation in living conditions and healthcare provisions in urban areas~~
 - *varied healthcare systems in some countries*
- contemporary models can predict the spread of disease and simulate the effects of possible interventions. ~~Supercomputing~~ *Increased processing capacity and data storage* has enabled models to predict the relationship between epidemic frequency and location, and ~~factors~~ *examine variables* such as population size *and density*, environmental change and antibiotic resistance