Welcome students of VCE Summer School 2015! We hope you’re all looking forward to getting a head start on your studies, meeting oodles of new people, and discovering a bit about university life.

Inside the very first zine for Summer School 2015 you’ll find the 411 on all things VCESS. Just below is a short list answering any questions you may have about the academic program:

- You will have 6 one hour classes for each subject over the two week program (with the exception of the English program which has 3 one-hour lectures and 4 one-hour tutorials)
- There will be up to 15 students in your class
- Your tutors will be available for one-on-one tutoring
- For each subject you will receive a booklet containing the materials you need for your classes, and hints for the rest of your VCE studies throughout the year

There are also some incredible fun things to look forward to in VCESS, for example (please hold all cries of excitement until the end): there will be awesome activities like scavenger hunt and trivia, and super cool workshops to sign up to like Creative Writing, Gender in Disney, How to Ace a Job Interview and many, many more. These workshops and activities, which will be run by your tutors and the Activities team respectively, will introduce you to a bunch of new skills, lots of people who you may have seen around but who aren’t in any of your subject classes, and show you a more social side of uni life.

In this zine we’ve included a lifesaving map so that the only places you’re getting lost are in your textbooks (jokes about the textbooks but there is a map), and we’ll tell you how to make the most of your holidays before the school year starts, and (last one, I promise) we’ve chucked in some funky stuff like sudoku and horoscopes. Best summer school program out? You’re welcome.

So sit back, grab a cup of tea, coffee, or some good ol’ H2O, and get stuck into the best read you’ll have all summer: the VCE Summer School Pre-Zine!

You can change your subjects between now and January 12th by emailing the directors.

“SummerSchool@union.unimelb.edu.au”
Getting around...

‘Melbourne University is such a tiny campus and it’s so easy to find your way around’ said no one ever. At VCESS you’ll be searching around campus for classes, workshops and lectures and your future Group Leader will be more than happy to help you out. Until then we on the Zine will be happy pointing some stuff out.

Getting to Melbourne University
The closest train station is Melbourne Central on the city loop and from there you can catch trams up Swanston Street or Elizabeth Street/Royal Parade to the campus (1, 3/3a, 5, 6, 8, 16, 64, 67, 72 all go past the uni on Swanston Street). Alternately several bus routes (200, 201, 203, 205, 207, 250, 251, 253, 401, 402, 505, 546) run close to the uni.

Union House
Enrolment takes place on level 2 of Union House, which will be the VCESS home base for the entire two weeks of the program. You’ll learn about the rest of the campus during a tour on the first day but until then, get yourself to Union House. If you need help with anything such as your timetable or figuring out where to go for class, the tutors managing operations in the Joe Napolitano Room A, also level 2, are ready and willing to help. Level 2 is also a good place to spend your time off. Tutors will hang out there and will be more than happy to accommodate one on one tutoring with coursework or help get a game of uno going.

Food!
Ground floor and the basement level of Union House is also full of various food options for you to enjoy as well as vending machines. There is also decent coffee and food places hidden throughout the campus and you’ll find your own favourites in no time. Don’t forget, VCESS will be providing free barbeques during some lunches!

Chadstone is overrated.
No Stars
Jess McLennan

Interstellar
 Existential pondering served with a side of ‘oh ****’
Jess Flatters ★★★★★
So, you’re edging closer to the dreaded school year, and not thrilled at the prospect of all the holiday homework you have to finish? Never fear: take it from us, a group of people who actually made it through alive, that study is important, but actually enjoying your holidays is way more vital. Spend about half an hour each day reading your books, reviewing chapters from your textbook, or completing questions. Literally, half an hour is all you need, then you can spend the rest of the day working on your tan. It’s not about quantity, more about consistency, and if you can consistently spend a few minutes each day, then by the end of the holidays you won’t have the panic that everyone else will about finishing all your homework. If you are running out of ideas to keep yourself busy through the long summer months, here are some tried and true faves that should keep you busy up until VCESS starts!

• Go to the beach: this is something you may do anyway with your families, however, you don’t have to go far away from Melbourne to find some great beaches. Places like Sandringham, Brighton and St Kilda beach are easily accessible by train and/or tram, so grab some mates and have a picnic on the sand.

• See a movie under the stars: Movies are great, and seeing them outside is even better. The Moonlight Cinema at the Royal Botanic Gardens is fantastic fun, and they show films up until March. If you live farther away from the city, drive-ins are also great and there is one in Dromana, Coburg, and Dandenong. Just don’t forget to rug up!

• Have a backyard barbeque: having a barbie with your mates isn’t just reserved for Australia Day – just make sure the weather is great! Blast your music, cook yourself a delicious lunch, and if you’ve also got a pool in your backyard, then that’s even better!

• Read a book: obviously, you probably want to finish your compulsory reading first, but if you just can’t stomach reading books for school yet, then go to your local library and pick a book at random. Literally judge a book by its cover, and then just sit down somewhere with no distractions. Plus, you’ll be studying with no effort because just the act of reading a book can improve your vocabulary and engage your brain, strengthening it for the new school year.

What to do over the summer is limited only by your imagination, but whatever you do, have some ‘me-time’. It might sound lame, but the best thing you can do to prepare for VCE is to relax and de-stress. Do some light exercise, eat yummy, healthy food, and enjoy spending time with your friends and family. Trust us, you can do it!
Sudoku

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For up to date information and photos, like:
https://www.facebook.com/vcess2015

For more information and answers to commonly asked questions check the VCESS website:
http://umsu.unimelb.edu.au/jump-in/summerschool/

HOROSCOPES

**ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 19)**
- The Moon aspects Saturn today, so stay away from people with knives. They may want to kill you, or they might just be chefs. Avoid all chefs anyway. Especially Gordon Ramsay.

**TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20)**
- You’ll find that you have run out of laundry. However you will not let a lack of pants ruin your day. Good for you!

**GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 20)**
- You know that part in High School Musical when Troy and Gabriella sing together… me neither. I definitely didn’t marathon all three movies last night. Stay away from musicals because they will suck you in and never let you go.

**CANCER (JUN 21 - JUL 22)**
- This is a good day to discuss your ideas with others. Except if they’re stupid ideas – then we don’t want to hear them. Although, your idea about crossing horses with narwhals to make unicorns is actually pretty good…

**LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22)**
- Don’t waste your day sitting around and doing nothing – why don’t you spend your whole month doing nothing? Better yet, just don’t get out of bed for an entire year.

**VIRGO (AUG 23 - SEP 22)**
- Speak your mind clearly, Virgo. Seriously, we’re not mind readers here. We literally have no idea what you’re saying. Maybe write everything down? That could work.

**LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)**
- You are surrounded by a great team spirit. That’s right, it’s the ghost of an entire basketball team that were killed in a freak zeppelin accident. They are haunting you. Just deal with it.

**SCORPIO (NOV 22 - DEC 21)**
- Neptune something something Pluto…. Ahhhhh – I swear, I’m good at horoscopes. I didn’t just become an astrologer to say the word Uranus professionally.

**SAGITTARIUS (DEC 22 - JAN 19)**
- There are two sides of your spirit working in harmony, Sagittarius. Except for when it’s a full moon, when you split into two halves and fight your alter-ego until dawn. Which side will win this time - good or evil?

**CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19)**
- Feel free to kick up your heels and take the town today. That’s right – become a ruthless dictator and literally take the entire town. You will be the master and commander of all you survey.

**AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18)**
- Be peaceful today, Aquarius. Drift though the waves and out to sea, where you will one day arrive on the shores of a strange new land and you will be sacrificed to their gods. On second thought, don’t be peaceful or you could be thrown in a volcano.

**PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 20)**
- Make sure you leave things in better condition than when you found them, Pisces. Please clean the bloodstains off the wall, Pisces. Tidy up your skull collection, Pisces. Don’t worry about the nagging. That’s just the haters.