
Embargo til Monday 4 November 2013
(Exam will be held from 9am til 12 noon Monday 4 November 2013)

More than 1800 students due to sit SACE English Studies exam today

More than 1800 students are due to sit their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) English Studies examination today.

While today's exam heralds the beginning of the major exam period, several hundred South Australian students have already undertaken nationally assessed language exams during the past fortnight.

This year, more than 13,000 students will sit at least one SACE examination. The last exam, Musicianship, will be held on Wednesday 20 November.

Eighteen-year-old Daniel Sansome from Golden Grove is one of the many students taking the English Studies exam today.

Daniel hopes to study medicine next year but has enjoyed English Studies as it has provided a great break from his science subjects.

"English Studies has taught me how to view books and films from a more critical perspective," Daniel said.

"I've really enjoyed the individual study – I reviewed George Orwell's *Nineteen eighty-four* and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, which spoke to me about the need for humanity and hope for survival."

While completing his SACE, Daniel has found the time to run a blog site where he has posted reviews of some of his favourite books – "fantasy and escape, and anything by Isobelle Carmody" – attracting 25,000 views.

Classmate Kimberly Martin, 17, said the subject has helped her learn how to write responses and structure essays, which will be helpful in her future tertiary studies.

"I've really enjoyed studying *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, which is about the Salem witch trials, and also studying the work of poets Bruce Dawe and William Blake."

Next year, Kimberly hopes to study either Occupational Therapy or Speech Pathology.

SACE Board Chief Executive Dr Neil McGoran has wished Year 12 students all the best with their exams, and encouraged them to stay calm and confident.

"Examinations can be stressful, but students need to remember that the work they have done during the year accounts for 70 percent of their final grades," Dr McGoran said.

“So keep that perspective, and look at the exams as an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills you have developed throughout the school year.”

The full examination timetable and useful exam information including study tips for students and parents can be found on the SACE website: www.sace.sa.edu.au