

ROTOTUNA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MODULE OUTLINE



COURSE INFORMATION

X-LIFE	XLIFE	2026	BIOLOGY VISUAL ARTS
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HE AHA TE WHAKAMAARAMATANGA O TEENEI MARAU? - WHAT IS THIS COURSE ABOUT?

Explore the intersection of science and art by investigating how organisms adapt to extreme environments—like deep oceans, space, or geothermal vents—and visually interpreting these survival strategies through culturally informed art practices. This cross-disciplinary course blends biological inquiry with creative expression to produce resolved, meaningful visual outcomes.

HE AHA TAAKU E AKO AI? - WHAT TYPES OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES WILL I DO?

In this course, you’ll explore how organisms adapt to extreme environments and interpret them through both scientific investigation and artistic expression. You might:

- **Research** into and about deep oceans, space, anaerobic conditions, exposure to radiation or toxic conditions and geothermal vents
- **Analyse artworks** that are appropriate to scientific investigation such as macro and micro observations.
- **Take part in class discussions or creative journals**, reflecting on how humans have adopted these conditions to exist.
- **Experiment with painting, sculpture or other artistic media that may include moving images (digital) but not limited to.**
- **You will also learn** how to use colour, texture, and symbolism to communicate big ideas.
- **Design and create your own artwork** by interpreting the scientific reasoning and translating them into visual forms.
- **Present and explain your finished piece**, linking your creative choices to the biological inquiry and the original art you studied.

EOTC OPPORTUNITIES & COMMUNITY CONNECTION	PATHWAYS	COURSE REQUIREMENTS (IF APPLICABLE)
Visit to the art gallery or museum. Maybe the geothermal vents at Rotorua.	PREFERRED PRIOR LEARNING: Knowing fundamentals of art, basic techniques and methods of art making processes and familiar with art terms. LEADS ON TO (FURTHER STUDY):	

ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITIES

STANDARD(S)												
ESTIMATED DUE DATE	STANDARD & VERSION	NCEA SUBJECT	LEVEL	STANDARD TITLE	CREDIT TOTAL	LIT	NUM	UER	UEW	I/E	ASSESSMENT MODE	FURTHER ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITY
T2 W4	AS91235 V2	Visual Art	2	Produce a resolved work that demonstrates control of skills appropriate to cultural conventions	4					I	Project	N
T2 W4	AS91190 V2	Earth and Space	2	Investigate how organisms survive in an extreme environment	4					I	Report	N
SUBJECT ENDORSEMENT NOT AVAILABLE				SUBJECT CREDIT TOTAL	8							

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **What happens if I am struggling to meet a deadline?**
 - If you have a legitimate reason, you can apply for an extension. More information and the extension form can be found [here](#).
- **Can I use AI in my assignments?**
 - Usually not for assessed work, but on occasion yes, depending on what stage of the assignment you are at. Using AI can often result in a [breach of NCEA rules](#). Please read [the Authenticity section](#) on Te Hinaki carefully and ask your teacher for guidance before you use AI.
- **Can I get a resubmission on assessments?**
 - Resubmissions may be offered if, in the opinion of the teacher assessing it, you are close to the Achieved grade boundary. More information about this can be found [here](#).
 - If you think there has been a mistake with how your assignment has been graded, there is an appeals process you can follow. Go [here](#) for more information.
- **What’s the difference between a RESUBMISSION and a FURTHER ASSESSMENT OPPORTUNITY?**
 - A **resubmission** may be offered by your teacher after an assessment has been marked if, at the teacher’s discretion, your work was given NOT ACHIEVED but is close to the ACHIEVED boundary. A resubmission will allow you to do extra work for a short period of time (usually about an hour), without any further teaching, to bring the grade from a NOT ACHIEVED to an ACHIEVED. No higher grade than this is possible for a resubmission.

- A **further assessment opportunity** is a brand new assessment task for a Standard that is offered to students after further teaching has occurred. This is offered to all students in the course, although not everyone is obliged to take it up. The higher of the two grades will be reported to NZQA. Because further assessment opportunities require extra teaching time and extra time to complete the assessment it is often not feasible for further assessment opportunities to be offered.
- **Do I have to complete all the Standards in the Module?**
 - Yes, by selecting the module you are signing up for a teaching and learning program that integrates two different subject areas. The assessment is an integral part of this so that you can show evidence of your real world learning and gain credits. Some modules will have separate assessment tasks for each Standard, others will have one assessment task that is assessing two or more Standards. Either way, it is expected that you attempt them all.