



Highfields State  
Secondary College

# Semester 1 Course Overview

**Faculty:** Humanities

**Subject:** History

**Year level:** 9

## Course Outline

### The Making of the Modern World

The Year 9 curriculum provides a study of the history of the making of the modern world from 1750 to 1918. It was a period of industrialisation and rapid change in the ways people lived, worked and thought. It was an era of nationalism and imperialism, and the colonisation of Australia was part of the expansion of European power. The period culminated in World War I 1914-1918, the 'war to end all wars'.

The content provides opportunities to develop historical understanding through key concepts, including **evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy, significance and contestability**. These concepts may be investigated within a particular historical context to facilitate an understanding of the past and to provide a focus for historical inquiries.

The history content at this year level involves two strands: *Historical Knowledge and Understanding* and *Historical Skills*. These strands are interrelated and should be taught in an integrated way; and in ways that are appropriate to specific local contexts. The order and detail in which they are taught are programming decisions.

### Key Inquiry Questions

A framework for developing students' historical knowledge, understanding and skills is provided by **inquiry questions** through the use and interpretation of sources. The key inquiry questions at this year level are:

- What were the changing features of the movements of people from 1750 to 1918?
- How did new ideas and technological developments contribute to change in this period?
- What was the origin, development, significance and long-term impact of imperialism in this period?
- What was the significance of World War I?

## Term 1

### Unit 1: Industrial Revolution

This depth study investigates how life changed in the period from 1750 to 1914 through the study of the Industrial Revolution. The study includes the causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution, and the Australian experience.

The content provides opportunities to develop historical understandings through the key concepts of evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, significance and contestability.

#### Assessment – Investigation: Exam

Students are to analyse the causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution between 1750 and 1901, and explain the significance of this development over the short and long term.

## Term 2

### Unit: World War 1

This depth study investigates the first major world war, in which powerful nation-states vied with each other for economic and political supremacy. Australia had only been a nation for thirteen years when war broke out in Europe and the Australian Imperial Forces (AIF) were committed to fight for the 'Mother Country'.

Many politicians saw the war as a chance for Australia to prove itself on the world stage. On the battlefields of Gallipoli and on the Western Front the resourcefulness, heroism and bravery of the Australian soldiers helped to personify the Anzac legend. The lasting legacy of the war was the death of a generation of young men. It marked a significant turning point in the formation of the Australian national identity, embodied in the Anzac legend. This unit provides an opportunity to investigate the significance of World War I (1914-1918) and the Australian experience of the war, including the nature and significance of the war in world and Australian history.

#### Assessment: Research Essay

Students will research either the use of propaganda **or** warfare – technology and weaponry to explain its impact throughout the course of the war. Students will;

- develop inquiry questions to frame their research
- Locate, organise and evaluate historical sources to answer inquiry questions
- Analyse and synthesis evidence and information from a range of primary and secondary sources
- Develop a plan and notes to take into the examination.
- Develop a written extended response as a historical argument. The response will explain the following:
  - Patterns of continuity and change (refer to key events and the action of groups)
  - Motives and actions of people at the time

Significance of events over the short and long term