



Highfields State  
Secondary College

## Course Overview 2021 – Semester 2

**Faculty:** Humanities

**Subject:** History

**Level:** Year 10

**The two of the four Depth Units studied in Year 10 will draw their inspiration from the Senior History Syllabi:**

- a) Sparta – Life in an Ancient Totalitarian Greek City-State
- b) Slavery in the Ancient and Modern Worlds: a mix of societies will be explored, e.g. Mesopotamian societies, Egypt, Greece, Rome and slavery in the Americas (the Antebellum South in the USA + all of colonial Latin America)

One of the key purposes of Year 10 History is to prepare students for the Senior History Curriculum. It will do this by drawing different assessment types, along with their more demanding conditions, which require longer responses, from the Senior Syllabi. Accordingly, students will meet the following two Senior Assessment Types:

- ⇒ Investigation: Independent Source Investigation
- ⇒ Investigation: Historical Essay Based on Research

### Unit 3: Life in Sparta

Students will investigate how people lived in the totalitarian city-state (polis) of Ancient Sparta through an examination of the evidence of the social, political and economic institutions, and other significant features of society. The key conceptual understandings of this unit are as follows: reliability and usefulness of sources; interpretations, representations and perspectives; the nature of evidence; continuity and change; cause and effect; significance; empathy; and contestability.

Key inquiry question for this unit:

- How do ancient societies reflect the attitudes, beliefs and behaviours of ancient peoples?
- What was life like in Sparta for different members of society?

This unit has been designed to allow students to sample what Ancient History is like in Senior. It has been scheduled as the Second Unit in the Year 10 History Curriculum in order to ensure students have had exposure to both Modern and Ancient History before Subject Selection this year in Term 3.

**Assessment:** Investigation – Independent Source Investigation (Senior Assessment Type)

### Unit 4: Slavery in the Ancient and Modern Worlds

A mix of Ancient and Modern Societies will be explored in terms of how slavery was practised within them. A selection of societies as diverse as the following will be studied:

- Societies from Mesopotamia (e.g. Babylonia)
- Ancient Egypt
- Classical Greece
- Classical Rome
- Islamic societies (e.g. Ottomans and their use of Christian slaves)
- Modern Slavery in the Americas (in all of colonial Latin America (e.g. the *encomienda* system of the early Spanish Empire, the use of slavery in the plantations of the Caribbean and Brazil), along with the Antebellum South of the United States of America)
- Other societies may be explored, if time permits

The purpose of this unit is to compare and contrast how slavery has manifested itself over time in human societies. Heavy use of sources will be made via the use of Sourcebooks that are commonly used in Senior History.

**Assessment:** Investigation: Historical Essay Based on Research (Senior Assessment Type)