



Highfields State
Secondary College

Semester 2 Course Overview

Faculty: Humanities
Subject: Humanities (History & Geography)
Year level: 8

Course Outline

In Year 8 Humanities, students study three terms of History and one of Geography

History

The Year 8 curriculum provides study of history from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period, c.650 AD (CE) – 1750. This was when major civilisations around the world came into contact with each other. Social, economic, religious, and political beliefs were often challenged and significantly changed. It was the period when the modern world began to take shape.

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.

Geography

Landforms and landscapes focuses on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms. This unit examines the processes that shape individual landforms, the values and meanings placed on landforms and landscapes by diverse cultures, hazards associated with landscapes, and management of landscapes. *Landforms and landscapes* develops students' understanding of the concept of environment and enables them to explore the significance of landscapes to people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. These distinctive aspects of landforms and landscapes are investigated using studies drawn from Australia and throughout the world.

Semester 2

Term 3 - Unit: Shogun Japan (History)

In this unit, students investigate the way of life in shogunate Japan including social, cultural, economic and political features. In particular, the role of the Tokugawa shogunate in imposing a feudal system and environmental policies on Japan will be examined. Students will explore theories about the decline of the shogunate, including modernisation and westernisation. The content provides opportunities to develop historical understandings through the key concepts of evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect and significance.

Assessment – Research Task

Students will select, analyse and organise information from a range of sources to answer and respond to a question provided about a key individual in . From this, students will present their information as an analytical essay.

Term 4- Unit: Landforms and Landscapes (Geography)

This unit focuses on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms. It will include the examination of processes that shape individual landforms, the values and meanings placed on landforms and landscapes by diverse cultures. Students will also study hazards associated with landscapes, and management of landscapes.

This unit continues investigating geomorphology through the study of landscapes and landforms with a specific focus on the inquiry questions of:

- How do environmental and human processes affect the characteristics of places and environments?
- What are the consequences of changes to places and environments and how can these changes be managed?

Assessment – Supervised Short Response Exam

Students will be examined on their knowledge and understanding of landforms and landscapes and the characteristics of places and spatial concepts by representing data in a variety of forms.

Assessment – Response to Stimulus Exam

Students will be required to examine stimulus material and respond to a proposal to demonstrate an understanding of the interconnections between environmental and human processes and their effect on the characteristics of a place.

