



Australian History

What is Australian History?

Since the arrival of the Europeans Australia has undergone significant changes due to both internal and external forces. It has been involved in international conflict and its allegiances and cultural mix have been subject to changes brought by world circumstances and local necessity.

Why study Australian History?

Students of History have the opportunity to make sense of an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world by connecting the past and the present.

History involves the investigation of human experience over time. By studying past events, actions, and phenomena, students gain an insight into human nature and the ways in which individuals and societies function. History encourages inquiry into the activities of people in order to gain an understanding of their motivations and the effects of actions in particular places at particular times; make comparisons; and draw conclusions.

History builds understanding through the investigation of historical concepts and ideas such as change and continuity; historical empathy; power and its distribution; the causes and resolution of conflicts; and rules and rulers. Students have the opportunity to explore social relationships; how people in society treat each other; the influence of individuals on decision-making; the influence and control of governments over individuals; who and which institutions make rules and who interprets them; and who enforces the rules and who resists them.

Course content of Australian History

A Thematic Study: Australia's Foreign Policy

Depth Study: Remembering Australians in War Time; Experiences and Myths 1880 - Present

Assessment Components

Assessment in Australian History consists of the following components, weighted as shown:

School Based Component: 70%

- **Assessment Type 1: Folio (50%)**

Students undertake six to eight folio assessments that involve research, synthesis, analysis of sources, and argument designed to develop and evaluate their knowledge and historical literacy skills. Folio assessments are designed to develop a student's ability to structure an inquiry; research and analyse historical texts and sources; appreciate changes in values and attitudes over time; and synthesise information to develop a position on historical questions.

- **Assessment Type 2: Essay (20%)**

Students undertake an individual inquiry on a historical topic of their choice (i.e. post 1788 for Australian History,

The inquiry is presented in the form of a written essay and involves the formulation of a hypothesis and/or focusing question(s), relevant research, critical analysis, conclusions, and appropriate acknowledgment of sources. It should take the form of an informed, sequenced, reasoned, and persuasive historical argument in response to the hypothesis and/or focusing question(s).

The written essay should be a maximum of 2000 words.

Externally Moderated Component: 30%

- Examination: A 3-hour written external examination.

Learning Requirements

The learning requirements summarise the knowledge, skills, and understanding that students are expected to develop and demonstrate through their learning.

In this subject, students are expected to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of people, places, events, and ideas in the history of societies in selected periods and places since c. 1500
2. Formulate hypotheses and/or focusing questions and apply them to explain historical concepts
3. Apply the skills of historical inquiry, including critical analysis
4. Construct reasoned historical arguments based on a critical understanding of evidence from sources
5. Reflect on the short-term and long-term impacts of individuals, events, and phenomena
6. Evaluate why individuals and groups acted in certain ways at particular times
7. Communicate informed and relevant arguments using subject-specific language and conventions.

Future Pathways in History

- Journalist
- Lawyer
- Librarian
- Researcher
- Teacher
- Curator
- Film Maker
- Soldier/Officer

Required Text(s) for Australian History

None – selected texts provided.

What are the prerequisites?

C in Year 11 History OR C Year 11 English Studies or B Year 11 English Communications.



TRINITY COLLEGE
Senior

Contact Details

For more information about studying Year 12 at Trinity College Senior, please contact the Head of Year 12 on 8523 8705 or visit: www.trinity.sa.edu.au/curriculum/index.htm

Further Information

More information about SACE may be obtained from the SACE Board of South Australia webpage at: www.sace.sa.edu.au