

VCE History

Seymour College



Seymour
College

Contents

1. Overview of the subject
2. Units 1 & 2
3. Units 3 & 4
4. Entry requirements and assessments
5. Careers and pathways

1. Seymour overview

History involves inquiry into human action in the past, to make meaning of the past using primary sources as evidence.

The study of history fosters the ability to ask searching questions, to engage in independent research, and to construct arguments about the past based on evidence.

2. Unit 1 & 2 (Year 11)

Unit 1: Twentieth century history 1918–1939

Students explore the nature of political, social and cultural change in the period between the world wars, particularly the consequences of the peace treaties which ended World War One, the impact of ideologies on nations and the events that led to World War Two.

Unit 2: Twentieth century history 1945–2000

Students explore the nature and impact of the Cold War and challenges and changes to existing political, economic and social arrangements in the second half of the twentieth century. Students focus on causes and consequences of the Cold War; the competing ideologies that underpinned events, the effects on people, groups and nations, and the reasons for the end of this sustained period of ideological conflict.

3. Units 3 & 4

The focus of these units is Australian history:

Unit 3: Transformations: Colonial society to nation: 1834 -1920

Students explore the transformation of the Port Phillip District (later Victoria) from the 1830s through to the end of the tumultuous gold rush decade in 1860 and consider the type of society Australians attempted to create in the early years of the newly federated nation. Finally, students evaluate the effect that Australian involvement in World War One had on the country's egalitarian and socially progressive aspirations.

Unit 4: Transformations: Old certainties and new visions: 1929 – 2000

Students investigate the continuing development of the nation in the early part of the twentieth century and the dramatic changes that occurred in the latter part of the century. In Area of Study 1 students focus on a crisis faced by the nation: World War Two 1939 –1945. In Area of Study 2 students explore social, economic and political changes in the latter part of the twentieth century that collectively challenged and/or overturned much of Australia's earlier carefully constructed social and economic fabric. Students examine two changes: Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War & Aboriginal land rights.

4. Entry Requirements & Assessment

VCE History does not have any pre-requisites to entry. Any student may enroll in the subject regardless of their previous study and interests.

VCE History is assessed via SACs of various forms for both Year 11 and 12 and an end of year exam for Year 12 students. The SAC assessments are usually extended pieces of writing.

Why History?

The choices that you will be making for your future should include the past!

By choosing history, you will not only be equipping yourself well for your final years of schooling, but for the rest of your life. History enables people to know about past events and actions; it also makes them critical and wary thinkers, more confident communicators and more active citizens.

Employers also value many of the skills developed in the study of History. These skills include:

- A high level of written communication
- Planning and time management
- Independent and critical thinking
- Reasoned decision making
- Recognition of different perspectives