

VCE History

Seymour College



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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: Modern History Change and Conflict

In this unit students investigate the nature of social, political, economic and cultural change in the later part of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. Modern History provides students with an opportunity to explore the significant events, ideas, individuals and movements that shaped the social, political, economic and technological conditions and developments that have defined the modern world.

Unit 2: Modern History The Changing World Order

In this unit students investigate the nature and impact of the Cold War and challenges and changes to social, political and economic structures and systems of power in the second half of the twentieth century and the first decade of the twenty-first century.

3. Units 3 & 4

Two broad topics are studied over the course of the year – one in Unit 3 and one in Unit 4. Each topic is split into two time frames – before and after 1950. Students will be studying: War & Upheaval and Power & Resistance

War and Upheaval (1909–1992)

Area of Study 1: Students investigate the debates and perspectives about Australia’s participation in World War One and World War Two.

Area of Study 2: Students investigate the debates and perspectives about Australis’s participation in Asian Wars as part of the Cold War period: Korea, Vietnam, Malayan Emergency and the Indonesian Confrontation. The changing nature of enlistment and service in the Australian Military is included.

Power and Resistance (1788 – 1998)

Area of Study 1: Students investigate the ways in which the colonisation of Australia began as a complex story of the exercise of power and resistance to authority. Topics include: the Frontier Wars, the Rum Rebellion, the Eureka Rebellion, the rise of Unionism and Federation, Female Suffrage.

Area of Study 2: Students investigate how Australian democracy and society were challenged in the post-colonial world that emerged after 1945 and the extent to which these challenges were influenced by perspectives of, and events in, other nations. Students study the struggle for Indigenous civil and land rights, struggles for improved workers’ rights and conditions, the push for women’s equality and demands for LGBTIQ+ 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 the following written assessment tasks:

1. A historical inquiry
2. An evaluation of historical sources
3. Extended responses
4. An essay

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