

Modern History 2019 v1.2

General Senior Syllabus

MERIDAN STATE COLLEGE - MHS (possible 4 QCE credits)

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www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/senior-subjects

1 Course overview

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Rationale

Modern History is a discipline-based subject where students examine traces of humanity's recent past so they may form their own views about the Modern World. Through Modern History, students' curiosity and imagination is invigorated while their appreciation of civilisation is broadened and deepened. Students learn that the past is contestable and tentative. They discover how the past consists of various perspectives and interpretations. Modern History distinguishes itself from other subjects by enabling students to empathise with others and make meaningful connections between the past, present and possible futures.

Modern History has two main aims. First, Modern History seeks to have students gain historical knowledge and understanding about some of the main forces that have contributed to the development of the Modern World. Second, Modern History aims to have students think historically and form a historical consciousness in relation to these same forces. Both aims complement and build on the learning covered in the *Australian Curriculum: 7–10 History*. The first aim is achieved through the thematic organisation of Modern History around four of the forces that have helped to shape the Modern World — ideas, movements, national experiences and international experiences. In each unit, students explore the nature, origins, development, legacies and contemporary significance of the force being examined. The second aim is achieved through the rigorous application of historical concepts and historical skills across the syllabus. To fulfil both aims, Modern History uses a model of inquiry learning.

Modern History benefits students as it enables them to thrive in a dynamic, globalised and knowledge-based world. Through Modern History, students acquire an intellectual toolkit consisting of 21st century skills. This ensures students of Modern History gain a range of transferable skills that will help them forge their own pathways to personal and professional success, as well as become empathetic and critically-literate citizens who are equipped to embrace a multicultural, pluralistic, inclusive, democratic, compassionate and sustainable future.

Assumed knowledge, prior learning or experience

Before studying Modern History, it is assumed students have studied the *Australian Curriculum: 7–10 History*. Through this prior learning it is assumed students understand and can apply historical concepts, including:

- evidence
- continuity and change
- cause and effect
- significance
- perspectives
- empathy
- contestability.

It is also assumed students understand and can apply historical skills, including:

- chronology, terms and concepts
- historical questions and research
- analysis and use of sources
- perspectives and interpretations
- explanation and communication.

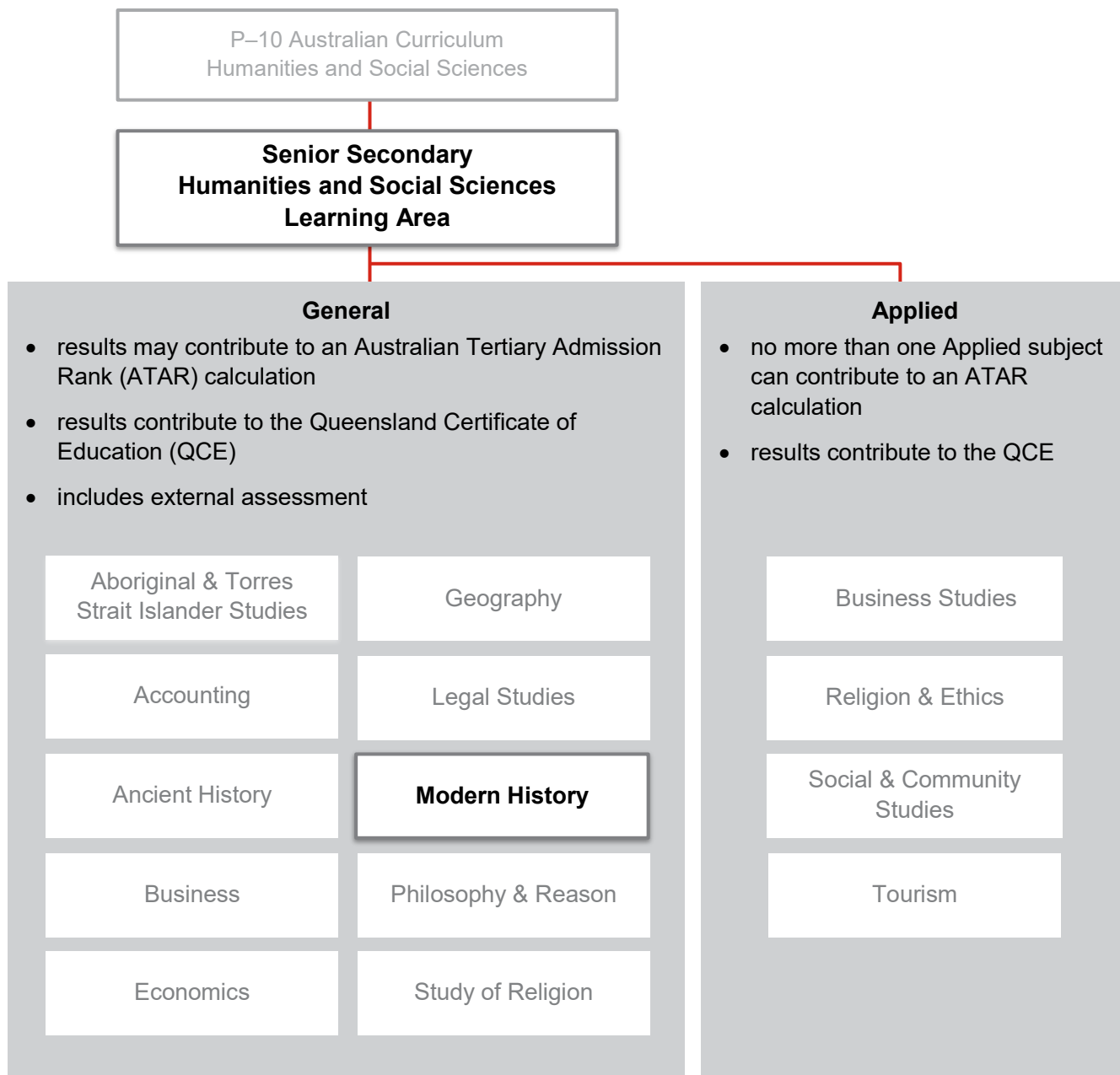
Pathways

Modern History is a General subject suited to students who are interested in pathways beyond school that lead to tertiary studies, vocational education or work. A course of study in Modern History can establish a basis for further education and employment in the fields of history, education, psychology, sociology, law, business, economics, politics, journalism, the media, writing, academia and strategic analysis. The skills developed in Modern History can be used in students' everyday lives — including their work — when they need to understand situations, place them in perspective, identify causes and consequences, acknowledge the viewpoints of others, develop personal values, make judgments and reflect on their decisions.

1.1.2 Learning area structure

All learning areas build on the Australian Curriculum: P–10.

Figure 1: Learning area structure



1.1.3 Course structure

Modern History is a course of study consisting of four units. Subject matter, learning experiences and assessment increase in complexity from Units 1 and 2 to Units 3 and 4 as students develop greater independence as learners.

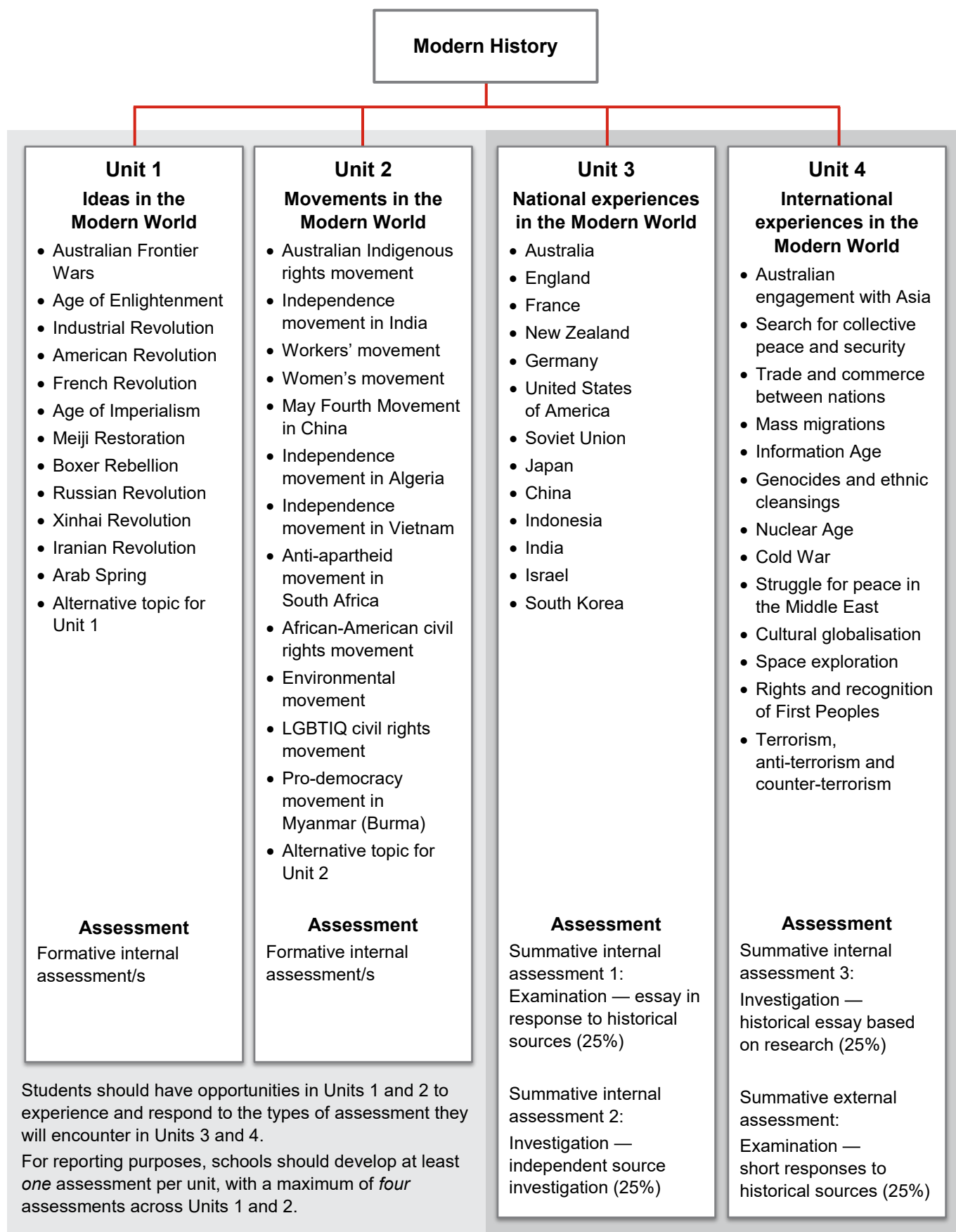
Units 1 and 2 provide foundational learning, which allows students to experience all syllabus objectives and begin engaging with the course subject matter. Students should complete Units 1 and 2 before beginning Unit 3. It is recommended that Unit 3 be completed before Unit 4.

Units 3 and 4 consolidate student learning. Only the results from Units 3 and 4 will contribute to ATAR calculations.

Figure 2 outlines the structure of this course of study.

Each unit has been developed with a notional time of 55 hours of teaching and learning, including assessment.

Figure 2: Course structure



Additional Requirements

Study Requirements	Special Requirements
<p>This is a research based General subject and will require significant commitment of time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three lessons per week face to face• Individual study 2-3hours per week to complete homework• Individual time will be required to complete research assessment	<p>Students need to have access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internet at home/local library• Computer at home and school <p>Students need to have good reading, comprehension, writing and analytical skills and are expected to read widely and keep abreast of current events/news.</p>