

AIM

The study of Modern History in Stage 6 enables students to: develop knowledge and understanding of the modern world, the skills of critical analysis, and values and attitudes essential for an appreciation of the people, forces and ideas that have shaped the modern world...

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

Objectives: Students: develop knowledge and understanding of a range of features, people, ideas, movements, events and developments of the modern world in their historical context...

Outcomes

- (MH12-1) accounts for the nature of continuity and change in the modern world
(MH12-2) proposes arguments about the varying causes and effects of events and developments
(MH12-3) evaluates the role of historical features, individuals, groups and ideas in shaping the past...

SKILLS

Objectives

- undertake the process of historical inquiry
use historical concepts and skills to examine the modern past
communicate an understanding of history, sources and evidence, and historical interpretations

Outcomes

- (MH12-6) analyses and interprets different types of sources for evidence to support an historical account or argument
(MH12-7) discusses and evaluates differing interpretations and representations of the past
(MH12-8) plans and conducts historical investigations and presents reasoned conclusions, using relevant evidence from a range of sources...

YEAR 12 COURSE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS

The Year 12 course is structured to provide students with opportunities to apply their understanding of sources and relevant historiographical issues in the investigation of the modern world.

The course comprises four sections. Students are required to study all four sections of the course. Modern History (Year 12 course, 120 hours) Core Study: Power and Authority in the Modern World 1919–1946 (indicative hours: 30) National Studies (indicative hours: 30) Peace and Conflict (indicative hours: 30) Changes in the Modern World (indicative hours: 30)

Historical concepts and skills The Historical concepts and skills content is to be integrated throughout the course. The topics provide the contexts through which concepts and skills are to be developed. These concepts and skills are to be integrated through the course. The topics provide the contexts through which concepts and skills are to be developed.

The course comprises a study of: Core Study: Power and Authority in the Modern World 1919–1946 ONE 'National Studies' topic ONE 'Peace and Conflict' topic ONE 'Change in the Modern World' topic.

CORE STUDY: POWER AND AUTHORITY IN THE MODERN WORLD 1919–1946

Outcomes: A student: accounts for the nature of continuity and change in the modern world (MH12-1) proposes arguments about the varying causes and effects of events and developments (MH12-2) evaluates the role of historical features, individuals, groups and ideas in shaping the past (MH12-3) analyses the different perspectives of individuals and groups in their historical context (MH12-4) assesses the significance of historical features, people, ideas, movements, events and developments of the modern world (MH12-5) plans and conducts historical investigations and presents reasoned conclusions, using relevant evidence from a range of sources (MH12-6) communicates historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms, in appropriate and well-structured forms (MH12-9).

Content focus: Through a study of Germany as a key example, students develop an understanding of how a democracy can collapse, the impact of dictatorship on a society, the elimination of individual freedoms, and the threats that dictatorships can pose to peace and security. This provides students with insights that contribute to a critical perspective on power and authority in the contemporary world.

Content: Students investigate: An overview of the peace treaties which ended World War I and their consequences (ACHMH130). Focus of study: The rise of dictatorships after World War I the conditions that enabled dictators to rise to power in the interwar period (ACHMH130, ACHMH136, ACHMH138) an overview of the features of the dictatorships that emerged in Russia, Italy, Japan (ACHMH138). The Nazi regime to 1939 the rise of the Nazi party and Hitler in Germany and the collapse of the Weimar Republic (ACHMH129, ACHMH130) the initial consolidation of Nazi power 1933–1934 (ACHMH130) the nature of Nazi ideology (ACHMH130, ACHMH132).

Outcomes: A student: (MH12-6) analyses and interprets different types of sources for evidence to support an historical account or argument (MH12-7) discusses and evaluates differing interpretations and representations of the past (MH12-8) plans and conducts historical investigations and presents reasoned conclusions, using relevant evidence from a range of sources (MH12-9) communicates historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms, in appropriate and well-structured forms.

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OPTION A: AUSTRALIA 1918–1949 Key features: nature and role of nationalism expansion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples changes in society the changing role of women post-war economic development impact of communism aims and impacts of foreign policy Students investigate: Australia and the aftermath of World War I, including: consequences of World War I for Australia the Northern Expedition and its impact (ACHMH164) attitudes and policies towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples immediately after the war (ACHMH121).

OPTION B: CHINA 1927–1949 Key features: quest for political stability and national unification nature and impact of nationalism nature and impact of communism development and impact of Maoism post-war economic development reasons for the Communist victory Students investigate: The Nationalist decade 1927–1937, including: political, economic and social issues in the Chinese Republic in 1927 (ACHMH164) the Northern Expedition and its impact (ACHMH164) achievements and limitations of the Guomindang (GMD)/Kuomintang Nationalist Government (ACHMH166).

OPTION C: INDIA 1942–1984 Key features: visions for India post-independence national unity and identity nature and impact of modernisation changes in society successes and failures of democracy aims and impact of foreign policy Students investigate: India towards independence, including: the Quit India Movement and the British decision to withdraw from India the interim government of Nehru, the partition of India and Pakistan, and the role of Jinnah (ACHMH150, ACHMH155) the ideas, methods and assassination of Mahatma Gandhi (ACHMH152).

OPTION D: INDONESIA 1945–2005 Key features: nature and impact of nationalism nature and impact of internationalism successes and failures of democracy changes in society nature, growth and impact of imperialism nature and impact of militarism leadership of Sukarno; leadership of Suharto aims and impact of foreign policy Indonesia's relations with Australia Students investigate: Emergence of the Indonesian Republic 1945–1965, including: rise of the Nationalist movement, including the impact of Japanese occupation 1945 Proclamation of Independence, Proclamation of Pancasila, the struggle with the Netherlands (ACHMH157) challenges facing an independent Indonesia (ACHMH158), reasons for failure of the coup (ACHMH159) the nature and impact of Sukarno's presidency and Guided Democracy (ACHMH158, ACHMH159).

OPTION E: JAPAN 1904–1937 Key features: nature and role of nationalism nature and impact of internationalism successes and failures of democracy changes in society nature, growth and impact of imperialism nature and impact of militarism tensions between tradition and modernisation aims and impact of Japanese foreign policy Students investigate: Japan as an emerging power, including: impact of Japanese expansion; Russo–Japanese War, annexation of Korea status as a great power: 21 Demands, role in World War I, 1945 Proclamation of Independence, Proclamation of Pancasila, political, social and economic issues in Japan by 1921.

OPTION F: RUSSIA AND THE SOVIET UNION 1917–1941 Key features: Bolshevik ideology in theory and practice competing visions for the Bolshevik Party and the USSR Bolshevik consolidation of power political and economic transformation social and cultural transformation nature and impact of Stalinism aims, nature and effectiveness of Soviet foreign policy Students investigate: Bolshevik consolidation of power, including: an overview of Bolshevik ideology, the October coup 1917 and early Soviet government (ACHMH136) the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, the Civil War and the introduction of the New Economic Policy (ACHMH136, ACHMH138).

OPTION G: USA 1919–1941 Key features: nature and impact of industrialisation nature and impact of consumerism the Great Depression racism in American society nature, growth and impact of imperialism influence of conservatism American capitalism government intervention American foreign policy and extent of isolationism Students investigate: The USA in the aftermath of World War I and politics in the 1920s: consequences of World War I for the USA Republican economic policies the term 'consumer' and the Great Depression reactions to the Great Crash of 1929.

Outcomes: A student: accounts for the nature of continuity and change in the modern world (MH12-1) proposes arguments about the varying causes and effects of events and developments (MH12-2) evaluates the role of historical features, individuals, groups and ideas in shaping the past (MH12-3) analyses the different perspectives of individuals and groups in their historical context (MH12-4) assesses the significance of historical features, people, ideas, movements, events and developments of the modern world (MH12-5) plans and conducts historical investigations and presents reasoned conclusions, using relevant evidence from a range of sources (MH12-6) communicates historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms, in appropriate and well-structured forms (MH12-9).

OPTION A: CONFLICT IN INDOCHINA 1954–1979 Key features: nature and role of nationalism nature and impact of internationalism strategies and tactics impact of the war on civilians reasons for communist victories Students investigate: Decolonisation in Indochina, including: conflict in Vietnam 1946–1954 the nature of Vietnamese victory against the French in 1954 the significance of the Geneva Conference for Indochina in 1954.

OPTION B: CONFLICT IN THE PACIFIC 1937–1951 Key features: imperialism and responses nature and impact of nationalism nature and impact of internationalism impact of the war on the home fronts of Japan and Australia impact of the war in occupied territories in South-East Asia the A-bomb reasons for the Japanese defeat aims and consequences of the Allied occupation of Japan Students investigate: Growth of Pacific tensions, including: economic and political issues in the Pacific by 1937 Japanese foreign policy 1937–1941 (ACHMH144) US and British policies in the Pacific 1937–1941.

OPTION C: CONFLICT IN EUROPE 1935–1945 Key features: causes of the conflict aims and strategies of the Allied and Axis powers turning points of the war the role of civilians impact of the Holocaust in occupied territories the arms race and disarmament reasons for the end of the Cold War Students investigate: Growth of European tensions, including: the collapse of collective security – Abyssinia, the Spanish Civil War Britain, France and the policy of appeasement the significance of the Nazi–Soviet Non-Aggression Pact.

OPTION D: THE COLD WAR 1945–1991 Key features: origins and developments of the Cold War influence of the ideologies of communism and capitalism on the Cold War turning points of the war the arms race and disarmament impact of crises on changing superpower relations the arms race and disarmament reasons for the end of the Cold War Students investigate: Origins of the Cold War 1945–1953, including: 1945 conferences and the emergence of the superpowers emerging differences between the superpowers (ACHMH187, ACHMH188) the Truman Doctrine and its consequences (ACHMH187, ACHMH192) impact of the early crises: the Berlin blockade and airlift, China becoming communist in 1949 and the Korean War (ACHMH187).

OPTION E: CONFLICT IN THE GULF 1980–2011 Key features: origins and development of the conflict nature and impact of regional rivalries in the Gulf changing responses to the conflict by Iraq and the members of the coalition facing Iraq attempts at peacemaking and nation-building international involvement in the conflict regionalism and sectarianism Students investigate: Origins of the First Gulf War, including: conflict between Iraq and Iran in the 1980s the nature of the Ba'ath regime relations between Iraq and its neighbouring Arab states invasion of Kuwait, August 1990, and the importance of oil in the conflict.

OPTION F: THE ARAB–ISRAELI CONFLICT 1948–1996 Key features: origins and development of the conflict nature and impact of nationalism changing responses to the conflict nature and consequences of Israeli occupation of the Occupied Territories impact of conflict on Israeli and Palestinian communities attempts at peacemaking international involvement in the conflict Students investigate: Origins of tension, including: Israeli and Palestinian perspectives on the 1948 Arab–Israeli War consequences of the war for Israel and the Palestinians political and social issues in Arab–Israeli relations in 1967.

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OPTION A: PRO-DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT IN BURMA 1945–2010 Key features: nature of the early democracy in Burma rise of civil military leadership impact of ethnic tensions rise and role of the pro-democracy movement differing visions and role of leadership reaction of military leaders in response to the pro-democracy movement Students investigate: Modern Burma at the end of World War II, including: the geography, ethnic, linguistic, social, and political characteristics of Burma the liberation of Burma from Japanese occupation in 1945.

OPTION B: THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION TO TIANANMEN SQUARE 1966–1989 Key features: Permanent Revolution, competing versions of Marxism and anti-revisionism modernisation of the economy the nature of social change the Cultural Revolution Tiananmen Square protests reaction of Chinese Communist Party (CCP) to the pro-democracy movement Students investigate: Political and social conditions in China at the start of the period, including: the legacy of the 1949 revolution and the Great Leap Forward (ACHMH168) the state of Sino-Soviet relations tensions between the Chinese Communist Party and its leader, Mao Zedong that gave rise to the Cultural Revolution.

OPTION C: CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE USA 1945–1968 Key features: nature and impact of segregation and discrimination aims and impact of civil rights movements opposition to civil rights influence of changing social attitudes proliferation and non-proliferation of nuclear policy successes of the civil rights movement Students investigate: The position of African Americans at the start of the period, including: the impact of World War II on the circumstances of African Americans in the United States (ACHMH168) the extent of racial segregation and various forms of discrimination (ACHMH168).

OPTION D: THE CHANGING WORLD ORDER 1945–2011 Key features: the 'American Century' collapse of the USSR and its impact on Russia and Eastern Europe nature of post-Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe role of the United States in post-Cold War global history proliferation and non-proliferation of nuclear policy role of the United Nations Students investigate: World order 1945–1989, including: an overview of the Cold War world and superpower rivalry (ACHMH187) challenges of the United Nations during the Cold War 1946–1991 (ACHMH188) the emergence of the 'American Century' (ACHMH191) the fall of the Berlin Wall.

OPTION E: THE NUCLEAR AGE 1945–2011 Key features: the development and use of the atomic bomb the struggle to maintain weapons parity the nature of deterrence social, political and environmental impacts of the Nuclear Age problems and issues with the use of nuclear energy Students investigate: The birth of the Nuclear Age, including: Truman, Stalin and the Potsdam Conference (ACHMH192) the Manhattan Project and Trinity Test (ACHMH192).

OPTION F: APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA 1960–1994 Key features: differing visions of democracy the struggle to maintain weapons parity role and impact of state terror and repression resistance to apartheid changes in society reasons for the collapse of apartheid international responses to apartheid Students investigate: The nature of the apartheid system, including: political, economic, social and demographic issues in South Africa in 1960 impact of apartheid on rural and urban communities.