

Modern History

The following contains a description of the course we offer to students at St Marys Senior High. It is intended as a guide to help you select your subjects and you should read it carefully.

Please note:

- The details given represent the way that the course is delivered at St Marys Senior High and may involve different choices from the way other schools might operate the same course.
- Classes can only be formed where sufficient students select the particular course. The fact that a course is listed here is not a commitment to run the course in a particular year.
- The arrangements for particular courses are subject to change for a variety of reasons.
- HSC students may elect to take extension courses which we offer in English, French, History, Japanese, Mathematics, Music and the Sciences.

Modern History - Course Details

Units	Type	ATAR	Faculty Teaching This Course
2	Board Developed Course – Examinable at the HSC, marks can be used to count towards an ATAR	A – Counts towards an ATAR with no restrictions	Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)

What will I be doing in this course?

Modern History in both Preliminary and HSC courses involves the study of a range of topics relating to nineteenth and twentieth century world history.

The Preliminary course

The Preliminary Course consists of three areas of study. These must include a Core Study of; *The Shaping of the Modern World* and two depth studies in *Investigating Modern History: The Nature of Modern History and Case Studies* selected from a list recommended by the National Education Standards Authority. As well as these topics students must conduct an historical investigation on a topic of their own choice relevant to modern history (which is not covered in the HSC).

The HSC course

The HSC course consists of four areas of study. These must include a *Core Study of Power and Authority in the Modern World: 1919-1946*, a *20th Century National Study*, a *20th century study in Peace and Conflict* and a study of *Change in the Modern World*. In this program of study students are required to study at least ONE non-European/Western topic, selected from a list supplied by the National Education Standards Authority.

The Extension course

An extension course in History with further areas of study is available as an additional one unit course for the HSC. Good research skills and an independent approach to learning are needed to successfully study this course.

What should I be able to do at the end of the course?

A study of Modern History will allow students to use historical terms and concepts, understand the concept of causation, how continuity and change develops in the Modern World, the different perspectives of the past and make a judgement on the significance and contestability of the past.

At the end of the course students will be able to:

- Explain the meaning and value of sources in an historical inquiry.
- Analyse sources to identify and account for different perspectives of individuals and groups in the past
- Identify and analyse problems relating to sources in the investigation of the past, including being able to synthesise evidence from a variety of sources.
- Analyse and identify the varying causes and effects of events and developments in order to construct historical arguments. This includes the ability to form judgements about the historical significance and the different purposes this is attributed to.
- Use available information technology, such as the World Wide Web, to conduct research
- Analyse and evaluate information from a variety of sources to inform investigation and research
- Communicate clearly about historical events, both orally and in various written forms.
- Present the findings of their research and investigation as a member of a group and as an individual.
- Appreciate the contribution of historical studies to an understanding of the modern world.

How will this course help me in the future?

Skills developed from a study of Modern History are useful in a range of courses studied in university and TAFE as well as in the professional and commercial world. They are especially applicable to law, teaching, medicine, communications, social work and journalism. A high level of

achievement in Modern History is a good indicator of success at tertiary level in a wide range of courses.