

2026 Year 10 Unit Outline

HASS - Geography, Legal Studies, History

Teacher(s): Bock, Clarke, Clifford, Cotton, Gelling, Merton

Faculty: Humanities & Social Sciences

Unit Duration: Semester 2, 2026

Unit Description:

Geography: The Year 10 curriculum focuses on global, national and local differences in human wellbeing between places, the different measures of human wellbeing, and the causes of global differences in measurements between countries. Students consider the spatial differences in wellbeing within and between countries, and programs designed to reduce the gap between differences in wellbeing.

Legal Studies: In Legal Studies we will be focusing on the Criminal Justice System (CJS), and analysing its role in Australian society. Students will learn how to explain and discuss the role of the police, courts, and prisons of the CJS. Students will learn how to analyse the impact and effectiveness of the CJS. Students will learn how to critically analyse depictions of crime and criminality, and how these reflect Australian ethics and values.

History: The Year 10 curriculum focuses on the nature of revolutions and how major political, social, and economic developments transformed societies over time. Students investigate the underlying causes of revolutionary change, key historical figures, and shifting power dynamics across a studied period or movement. They analyse primary and secondary sources to evaluate contested historical interpretations, assessing the short- and long-term consequences of revolution to determine how ideas of the past continue to shape the modern world.

Achievement Standards:

Geography:

1. V9.HG.10.02 Explains the effects of human activity on environments, and the effect of environments on human activity, over time
2. V9.HG.10.06 Evaluates strategies to address a geographical phenomenon or challenge, using environmental, social and economic criteria
3. V9.HG.10.08 Collects, represents and compares relevant and reliable geographical data and information by using a range of primary research methods and secondary research materials, using appropriate formats
4. V9.HG.10.09 Interprets and analyses data and information to make generalisations and predictions, explains significant patterns and trends, and infers relationships
5. V9.HG.10.12 Uses geographical knowledge, concepts, terms and digital tools as appropriate to develop descriptions, explanations and responses that synthesise research findings

Legal Studies:

1. **V9.HCAC.10.02** Describes the Australian Government's role and responsibilities at a regional and global level
2. **V9.HCAC.10.05** Identifies and explains challenges to a resilient democracy and a cohesive society in Australia
3. **V9.HCAC.10.06** Develops and refines a range of questions and locates, selects and compares relevant and reliable information from a range of sources to investigate political and legal systems, and contemporary civic issues
4. **V9.HCAC.10.07** Analyses information to evaluate perspectives and challenges related to political, legal or civic issues
5. V9.HCAC.10.09 Uses civics and citizenship knowledge, concepts and terms to develop descriptions, explanations and arguments that synthesise evidence from sources

History:

1. V9.HH.10.11 Compares and evaluates different and contested historical interpretations

2. V9.HH.10.05 Develops and modifies a range of questions about the past to inform historical inquiry
3. V9.HH.9.06 Locates, selects and compares primary and secondary sources, and uses information in sources as evidence in historical inquiry
4. V9.HH.10.09 Sequences events and developments to analyse cause and effect, and patterns of continuity and change, connected to a period, event or movement
5. V9.HH.10.03 Describes social, cultural, economic and/or political aspects, including international developments, related to the changes and continuities in Australian society over the historical period studied

Portfolio Assessment Tasks for this subject will include:	Week / Date Due	Achievement Standards
Geography		
1. Research task	Week 9	All
2. Creative task	Week 14	3,4,5
3. Formative assessment tasks and classwork	Ongoing	All
Legal Studies		
1. Research task	Week 9	All
2. Creative task	Week 14	4,5
3. Formative assessment tasks and classwork	Ongoing	All
History		
1. Research task	Week 10	All
2. Creative task	Week 14	3,4,5
3. Formative assessment tasks and classwork	Ongoing	All

Materials and Equipment Required: Students are expected to arrive at every class with a class book/folder to write notes for that subject, a writing instrument and a Chromebook or similar, appropriate electronic device. Students may also be required to provide the following additional materials and equipment: *ruler, lead pencil, coloured pencils or textas, highlighters*.

Absences from Class: Students who miss classes due to absence or excursions must negotiate with the class teacher to catch up missed work.

Use of IT in Class: A Google Classroom has been set up for this class. Students will be required to log into this Google Classroom regularly to access course material. Students must bring a personal device (not a smartphone) to all lessons, however, the use of these devices in class will be at the discretion of the teacher.

Homework: All students will be given multiple opportunities to demonstrate a proficiency level of 3 or above across all Essential Learnings during class time. Students may use time at home to complete additional enrichment and extension activities that demonstrate a proficiency above level 3, or to catch up on missed or unfinished classwork.

Late Work: Extensions may be negotiated with individual teachers before the due date

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is copying or using another's work and claiming it as your own. This includes copying, cutting and pasting text or using ideas directly from a text, the internet or some other source without appropriate referencing. The use of Generative AI to produce your work, or edit it so that it no longer reflects your work, is a form of plagiarism. If this happens, work may not be graded and students will be asked to discuss the assessment with the classroom teacher and Executive Teacher for that subject. If a teacher suspects a student may have plagiarised their work they may choose to assess the student in an alternative way, such as verbally or under test conditions. Parents may be contacted as part of this process.

A-E Reporting Grade Descriptors These are the grades and grade descriptors for reporting at the end of each Semester.

A	Demonstrating excellent achievement of what is expected (Consistently achieving a proficiency level of 4 or above in each of the Essential Learnings)
B	Demonstrating a high achievement of what is expected (Consistently achieving a proficiency level of between 3 and 4 in each of the Essential Learnings)
C	Demonstrating satisfactory achievement of what is expected (Achieving a proficiency level of 3 across the Essential Learnings)
D	Demonstrating partial achievement of what is expected (Achieving a proficiency of between 1 and 3 across the Essential Learnings)
E	Demonstrating limited achievement of what is expected (Achieving a proficiency of 1 or less in each of the Essential Learnings)

S Status is awarded where unavoidable circumstances have prevented assessment. Must be negotiated with the Principal.

Grade Descriptors and the "C" grade

In ACT public schools the Australian Curriculum Achievement Standard is aligned with a 'C' grade. The 'C' grade indicates that your child has demonstrated a satisfactory level of knowledge, understanding and skill in relation to the Achievement Standard.

Appeals

A student must initiate an appeal for any grade with their subject teacher. If a student is dissatisfied with that initial process, they must pursue further appeal through the Faculty Executive Teacher for that subject.

Executive Teacher

Natalie Gastineau