

School administrators, Heads of Learning Area – Humanities and Social Sciences and teachers of Politics and Law ATAR Year 11 are requested to note for 2023 the following minor syllabus changes. The syllabus is labelled as 'For teaching from 2023'.

Syllabus changes

The content identified by ~~strike through~~ has been deleted from the syllabus and the content identified in *italics* has been revised in the syllabus for teaching in 2023:

Unit 1 – Democracy and the rule of law

- Essential to the understanding of democracy and the rule of law ~~are~~ *is knowledge of:*
 - *the separation of powers doctrine*
 - *sovereignty of parliament*
 - *division of powers*
 - *representative government*
 - *Westminster conventions of responsible parliamentary government*
 - *constitutionalism*
 - *federalism*
 - *judicial independence.*
- structure of the *Australian political system and the Australian legal system in Australia*, including:
 - *separation of powers*
 - *federalism*
 - *representative government*
 - *Westminster conventions of responsible parliamentary government*
 - *constitutional monarchy*
 - *common law system*
- structures and processes of:
 - one democratic political and legal system
 - one non-democratic political and legal system*with reference to the operating principles of a liberal democracy*
- types of laws made by parliaments (*statute law*), courts (*common law*) and subordinate authorities (*delegated legislation*)
- key processes (*pre-trial, trial and post-trial*) of civil and criminal trials in Western Australia
- key processes of at least one non-common law (*inquisitorial*) system

Unit 2 – Representation and justice

- Essential to the understanding of representation and justice ~~are~~ *is knowledge of:*
 - *the principles of fair elections*
 - *political participation*
 - *natural justice.*
- political representation with reference to the role of *individuals*, political parties and pressure groups
- the Western Australian and Commonwealth electoral ~~and voting~~ systems since Federation, *including:*
 - *compulsory voting*
 - *preferential voting*
 - *proportional voting*
 - *the franchise*
- advantages and disadvantages of the electoral ~~and voting~~ systems in Australia with reference to at least one recent (the last ten years) election
- a recently implemented or proposed reform (the last ten years) to the electoral ~~and voting~~ systems in Australia
- the electoral ~~and voting~~ systems of another country