



Modern History ATAR – Summary of syllabus changes

As a result of the review, the main differences between the current Years 11 and 12 ATAR course syllabuses and the proposed Years 11 and 12 ATAR syllabuses are summarised below.

Content changes

Overall

- The course aims have replaced course outcomes.
- The information related to the representation of the General Capabilities and Cross-Curriculum Priorities have been updated.
- The Unit Descriptions have been updated to better reflect the revised content for each unit.
- The Historical Skills have been refined and become more explicit to provide greater clarity for teachers.
 - Contestability has been removed as a Historical Skill.
- The use of ‘e.g.’ and ‘including’ has been explicitly outlined to provide clarity for teachers.
- The Historical Knowledge and Understanding Syllabus points have been broken down to allow further detail of the required content and knowledge for each elective.
- External forces, ideas and cultural have been removed as forces.
- Learning outcomes have been removed.
- Glossary has had the definition for Contestability removed.

Year 11 specific

Unit 1 has been modified in the following ways:

- Content dot points have been broken down into more explicit detail.

Elective 1: The Enlightenment (1750–1789)

- the significance of the Enlightenment has replaced beyond Europe in the 19th century.

Elective 2: The American Revolution (1763–1812)

- the final dot point has been summarised to the significance and impact of the American Revolution into the 19th century.

Elective 3: The French Revolution (1774–1804)

- The time period has been extended to 1804.
- The majority of content dot points have been rewritten to refine and/or clarify for teachers.
- The significance of the French Revolution content dot point has been removed.

Elective 4: The Industrial Revolution (1750–1890s)

- Content dot points have been re-written to clarify key ideas and significance to be taught.

Elective 5: The Age of Imperialism (1848–1914)

- Content dot points have been broken down into more explicit detail.

Elective 6: The Meiji Restoration – Japan (1853–1911)

- Minor edits have occurred to the content dot points to clarify content for teachers.

Elective 7: Capitalism – the American experience (1901–1941)

- The time period has changed from 1907 to 1901.

- Minor changes have been made to the content dot points to simplify and clarify content that needs to be taught.

Unit 2 has been modified in the following ways:

Elective 1: Women's movements

- Minor edits have been made to clarify and simplify the content dot points.

Elective 2: Recognition and rights of Indigenous Peoples

- Minor edits have been made to clarify and simplify the content dot points.

Elective 3: Decolonisation

- Minor edits have been made to clarify and simplify the content dot points.

Elective 4: The civil rights movement in the USA

- Minor edits have been made to clarify and simplify the content dot points.

Elective 5: Worker's movements

- No changes have been made.

Elective 6: Nazism in Germany

- The content dot points have been refined and additional information added to clarify teaching points.

Elective 7: Movements for peace and security post 1945

- Content dot points have been removed to streamline course content.

Year 12 specific

Unit 3 has been modified in the following ways:

Elective 1: Australia 1918–1949 (the end of World War I to the 1949 election)

- The end of the time period has moved from 1955 to 1949 – up to the election.
- Content dot points have been refined and additional information added to clarify teaching points.

Elective 2: Russia and the Soviet Union 1914–1945 (World War I to the end of World War II)

- Content dot points have been refined and additional information added to clarify teaching points.

Elective 3: China 1945–1989 (From the end of World War II to the Tiananmen Massacre)

- The beginning of the time period has moved from 1935 to 1945, from the end of World War II.
- Content dot points have been refined and additional information added to clarify teaching points.

Unit 4 has been modified in the following ways:

Elective 1: The changing European world since 1945

- Content dot points have been refined and additional information has been added to clarify teaching points.

Elective 2: Australia's engagement with Asia since 1945

- The beginning of the time period has been articulated (since 1945).
- Content dot points have been refined and additional information has been added to clarify teaching points.

Elective 3: The struggle for peace in the Middle East since 1945

- The beginning of the time period has been articulated (since 1945).
- Content dot points have been refined and additional information has been added to clarify teaching points.

School-based assessment changes

Overall

- A generic section titled Assessment has been added.

Assessment table – Year 11

- The School-based assessment section has been revised and now includes the following statement:
'Summative assessments in this course must:
 - be limited in number to no more than eight tasks
 - allow for the assessment of each assessment type at least once for each unit in the unit pair
 - have a minimum value of 5 per cent of the total school assessment mark
 - provide a representative sampling of the syllabus content.'
- Changes have been made to the wording of the assessment type descriptions.
- Source Analysis description has been changed to reflect the removal of contestability as a Historical Skill.

Assessment table – Year 12

- The School-based assessment section has been revised and now includes the following statement:
'Summative assessments in this course must:
 - be limited in number to no more than eight tasks
 - allow for the assessment of each assessment type at least once for each unit in the unit pair
 - have a minimum value of 5 per cent of the total school assessment mark
 - provide a representative sampling of the syllabus content.'
- Changes have been made to the wording of the assessment type descriptions
- Source Analysis description has been changed to reflect the removal of contestability as a Historical Skill

Assessment type weightings – Year 11

No change.

Assessment type weightings – Year 12

No change.

Reporting section changes – Overall

- This section title has been revised and is now called Reporting (it was previously Grading).
- Some text has been removed, as this information can be located in the *WACE Manual*.

Examination design brief changes

Section/s renamed

Section Two: Essay has been renamed Explanation.

Section Four: Essay has been renamed Explanation.

Section/s format or weighting

Section One: Source Analysis

- The question has moved from 5 parts to 3 parts.
- The section is worth 20% of the examination.
- Suggested working time has gone from 45 minutes to 35 minutes.
- Instead of 4 sources there will be 3.
- A list of possible questions available on the Authority website has been added.

Section Two: Explanation

- This section will make up 30% of the total examination.
- Suggested working time has moved from 45 minutes to 55 minutes.

Section Three: Source Analysis

- The question has moved from 5 parts to 3 parts.
- The section is worth 20% of the examination.
- Suggested working time has gone from 45 minutes to 35 minutes.
- Instead of 4 sources there will be 3.
- A list of possible questions available on the Authority website has been added.

Section Four: Explanation

- This section will make up 30% of the total examination.
- Suggested working time has moved from 45 minutes to 55 minutes.

Sections removed

- Nil.

Sections added

- Nil

Other changes

The section '**Provided by the Supervisor**' now states that 'a source booklet containing one of three sources for each Unit 3 and 4 electives to reflect the change in the Source Analysis sections.'