



## Modern History ATAR – Summary of syllabus changes – May 2023

As a result of the consultation in March 2023 and further refinements by the syllabus writing party, the changes to the Modern History ATAR syllabuses are provided below.

The content identified by ~~striketrough~~ has been deleted from the syllabus and the content identified in *italics* has been revised in the syllabus for teaching from 2024.

### Aims

- develop knowledge and understanding of particular events, ideas, movements, *people* and developments that have shaped the modern world

### Unit 1 – Understanding the modern world

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

- the impact on American capitalism of:
  - *progressivism*
  - trust busting
  - WWI
  - the 1920s
  - WWII until 1941
  - the growth of consumerism
- the nature of American capitalism and the shaping of American values, for example
  - film and fashion
  - prohibition
  - the 'Jazz Age'
  - the Ku Klux Klan
  - social Darwinism
  - *the American Dream*
- *the impact of capitalism on different groups within American society*
- *the aims and beliefs of different groups, for example*
  - *African Americans*
  - *urban workers*
  - *rural workers*
  - *immigrants*
  - *industrialists*
  - *members of Indian Nations*
- *the consequences of divisions*
- the significance of *capitalism as an idea* in this period

### Unit 2 – Movements for change in the 20th century

#### Elective 2: Recognition and rights of Indigenous Peoples

The term 'Indigenous Peoples' has been replaced with 'First Nations Peoples'

The term 'colonists' has been replaced with 'colonisers'

## Unit 4 – The modern world since 1945

### Elective 1: The changing European world since 1945

- the impact of the arms race ~~and the space race~~
- the evolving nature and character of the Cold War in Europe from 1949 through to 1991, including
  - the impact of the arms race and the space race
  - the 1956 invasion of Hungary
  - the Berlin Wall
  - the Prague Spring and the Brezhnev Doctrine
  - détente
  - the new Cold War of the 1980s
  - *the reunification of Germany*
- significant developments that followed the end of the Cold War, including
  - ~~the changes in the politics and economics of Russia and the former Communist Bloc~~
  - ~~the reunification of Germany~~
  - the break-up of the former Yugoslavia
  - ~~the changing role of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)~~
  - the creation of the European Union and the Eurozone

### Elective 2: Australia's engagement with Asia

- the changing nature ~~and ongoing~~ importance of Australia's trade with Asia

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

- the nature and consequences of Palestinian reactions to Israel, including the Intifada (1987–1993) and the beginning of the 2nd Intifada (2000)

### Assessment table

#### Historical inquiry

Students use relevant historical skills to plan, conduct and communicate an inquiry related to the elective they are studying. Typically, the inquiry proposition can be/may be devised by the student.

~~The final presentation can be: a written report; an analysis of the sources used in the inquiry; a debate; a hypothetical; an oral presentation and/or a multimodal presentation which can be presented individually or in a group. The final assessment must be an in-class validation administered under test conditions.~~

#### Examination design brief

A source booklet containing one set of ~~four~~ *three* sources for each Unit 3 and Unit 4 elective. The question consists of three parts, *based on the Historical Skills* which are structured as a series of open and/or partially open questions. Each part is of increasing complexity, ~~and will be drawn from a list of questions published on the Authority's website.~~

## Grade descriptions

A grade description

- ~~Explains the major features of the historical narrative and provides a logical structure for the argument.~~
- ~~Constructs a logical structure for an argument by using relevant details of the historical narrative.~~
- *Accurately applies the major features of the historical narrative and constructs a logical structure for an argument using relevant historical evidence.*