Sample Teaching and Learning Program

Humanities and Social Sciences in Action

General Year 11

Example 1

**Acknowledgement of Country**

Kaya. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia. The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

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Sample teaching and learning program

Humanities and Social Sciences in Action

Humanities and Social Sciences skills

The teaching of the Humanities and Social Sciences skills is intrinsic throughout the course.

Questioning and researching

* construct a range of questions to investigate a specific topic or issue
* develop a coherent plan for an individual or collaborative inquiry and/or social action
* collect and record information from a range of primary and secondary sources
* select sources to sample a variety of perspectives
* use appropriate ethical protocols and scholarships throughout the research and communicating process

Analysing

* identify the reliability, bias, usefulness, and currency of primary and/or secondary sources
* analyse relationships in information and/or data
* account for different perspectives within the information gathered
* use evidence from different sources to support a point of view
* use decision-making tools to propose individual and collective action, considering environmental, social, political and/or economic factors

Evaluating

* evaluate information and use evidence to draw conclusions and develop explanations considering different perspectives
* use evidence to justify a course of action and predict the potential outcomes of the proposed action

Communicating and reflecting

* use subject-specific terminology and concepts
* use appropriate formats, either individually or in negotiation with a group to communicate findings which suit audience and purpose
* reflect on own learning to review original understandings
* reflect on why conclusions may change in the future

Sample teaching and learning program

Humanities and Social Sciences in Action

Semester 1 – Unit 1 – All humans have rights

| **Weeks** | **Syllabus content** | **Suggested activities** | **Suggested resources** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1–2 | Knowledge and understanding  Overview of human rights   * key terms and concepts   + human rights   + social issues   + social movements   + social actions * human rights declarations supported by the United Nations, including   + the Universal Declaration of Human Rights   + the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples   + the Convention on the Rights of the Child   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * collect and record information from a range of primary and secondary sources * use subject-specific terminology and concepts | * create a glossary covering the key terminology and concepts * describe the reasons for the development of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, e.g. the Holocaust, the scale of destruction caused by the Second World War * collect and record information in a retrieval chart on the key features and obligations of human rights declarations supported by the United Nations | United Nations – Universal Declaration of Human Rights  <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>  Australian Human Rights Commission – UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/un-declaration-rights-indigenous-people>  United Nations – Convention on the Rights of the Child <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child> |
| 3 | Knowledge and understanding   * human rights in Australia, including   + relevant common law and statute law   + the Australian Human Rights Commission   + international treaty membership, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights  **Humanities and Social Sciences skills**  * construct a range of questions to investigate a specific topic or issue * reflect on why conclusions may change in the future | * investigate how and why relevant common and constitutional law in Australia developed over time, e.g. implied freedom of political communication, Native Title * construct a timeline of statute law in Australia, e.g. *Age Discrimination Act 2004*, *Disability Discrimination Act 1992, Racial Discrimination Act 1975* * describe the role of the Human Rights Commission in protecting statute and common law pertaining to human rights * research and share learning on the major human rights treaties signed by Australia | Australian Human Rights Commission <https://humanrights.gov.au/>  Australian Human Rights Commission – Human Rights in Australia <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/education/human-rights-australia> |
| 4–5 | Knowledge and understanding   * examples of human rights violations in Australia and globally   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * reflect on own learning to review original understandings   Task 1: Commentary (issued)  Task 2: Response | * research and reflect on violations of human rights in Australia, e.g. criminal responsibility below international standard of 14 years of age, disproportionate representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths in custody, gender inequality in Australia, treatment of refugees * research and reflect on violations of human rights globally, e.g. more than 40 million people are victims of modern slavery, discrimination of women in Saudi Arabia, lack of press freedom in China | Human Rights Watch – World Report 2023 <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023> |
| 6–7 | Knowledge and understanding  Focus area 1: Ongoing human rights issues  Students study at least one group within society and how their access to human rights has changed over time in an Australian or international context. They learn about this group’s access to human rights in the past and present and predicted changes in the future.  For the selected group, students explore:   * the treatment of the group in the past, through legislation and within society  **Humanities and Social Sciences skills**  * use appropriate ethical protocols and scholarships throughout the research and communication process * identify the reliability, bias, usefulness and currency of primary and/or secondary sources | **To exemplify the course content, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples is the selected group.**   * investigate the political and societal impacts that caused Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ campaigns for human rights * discuss government policies and/or laws restricting human rights, e.g. protection, assimilation, the *Aborigines Act 1905 (WA)* * explore accounts of the past experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who were members of the Stolen Generations and how these experiences influenced the human rights movement * view a range of sources discussing the treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in society, e.g. Deaths in Custody Report, racism suffered by individuals in Australia, Adam Goodes’ experiences of racism in sport | Australian Human Rights Commission – The history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples advocating for the right to be heard <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/history-aboriginal-and-torres-strait> |
| 8–9 | Knowledge and understanding   * changes to the group’s human rights through the law (common and statute) and within society, and how these rights are being actioned at a local, national and/or global level * actions that individuals, communities and organisations can take to improve human rights for the group   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * collect and record information from a range of primary and secondary sources * select sources to sample a variety of perspectives * use evidence from a variety of sources to support a point of view | * investigate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups that contributed to changing Australian society, such as the Australian Aborigines League (Victoria), the Australian Aboriginal Progressive Association (AAPA) and Student Action for Aborigines * collect sources showing changes in statute law, e.g. *the Commonwealth right to vote 1962, the 1967 Referendum, the Native Title Act 1993* * discuss how common law assisted in gaining human rights, e.g. *the Mabo decision 1992, the Wik decision 1996, Love and Thoms Case 2020* * account for different perspectives towards civil activism, e.g. 1946 Pilbara Strike, the 1963–64 NSW Freedom Rides, the Apology 2008, 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart | Parliament of Australia – Commonwealth laws relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: a quick guide <https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_departments/Parliamentary_Library/Research/Quick_Guides/2023-24/Commonwealth_laws_relating_to_Aboriginal_and_Torres_Strait> |
| 10 | Knowledge and understanding   * the short- and long-term impacts of changes in access to human rights for this group   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * evaluate information and use evidence to draw conclusions and develop explanations, considering different perspectives * use evidence to justify a course of action and predict the potential outcomes of the proposed action   **Task 3: Response** | * identify areas such as education, health care, housing and employment that are the focus for continued civil rights action for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and discussing why there continues to be a need for such action * discuss how reconciliation is not a single significant event or change, but an ongoing process of truth-telling and healing between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and other Australians, e.g. the South Australian Voice to Parliament * analyse the concept of popular culture and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples became more assertive in the development of their own arts industries and influences in sharing histories, cultures, beliefs and stories | Closing the Gap <https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/>  First Languages Australia <https://www.firstlanguages.org.au/>  ABC – Right Wrongs <https://www.abc.net.au/rightwrongs/> |
| 11–12 | Knowledge and understanding  Focus area 2: Contemporary human rights actions  Students study at least one contemporary example of a social action/movement by an individual, a group, an organisation or a community that has contributed to promoting or fostering human rights.  For the selected social action/movement students explore:   * the sequence of events leading up to and during the action/movement, and the current perspectives of stakeholders * the role of key individuals and/or groups, organisations or communities involved in organising and participating in the movement   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * develop a coherent plan for an individual or collaborative inquiry and/or social action * use appropriate formats, either individually or in negotiation with a group, to communicate findings that suit audience and purpose   **Task 4: Social action investigation (issued)** | **To exemplify the course content, the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement is the selected social action/movement.**   * research the causes of the BLM movement in the USA and Australia, e.g. police misconduct and prejudice, Aboriginal deaths in custody * create a timeline showing examples of the social actions taken by the BLM movement * discuss how the BLM movement was adapted for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ human rights movement * research key individuals in the movement, e.g. Travyon Martin, George Floyd, David Dungay Junior | Britannica – Black Lives Matter international activist movement <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Black-Lives-Matter>  United Nations Association of Australia – Why does the BLM movement matter in Australia? <https://www.unaa.org.au/2021/11/03/why-does-the-blm-movement-matter-in-australia/>  ABC – How Black Lives Matter is inspiring Aboriginal activist [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017–11–01/how-black-lives-matter-is-inspiring-aboriginal-australians/9107314](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-11-01/how-black-lives-matter-is-inspiring-aboriginal-australians/9107314)  State Library of Western Australia – Black Lives Matter: Photographs of the BLM rallies in Perth in 2020 <https://slwa.wa.gov.au/collections/collections/photographs/black-lives-matter>  The Conversation – Australia’s news media play an important role reminding the country that Black lives still matter <https://theconversation.com/australias-news-media-play-an-important-role-reminding-the-country-that-black-lives-still-matter-161412> |
| 13 | Knowledge and understanding   * the social and/or political changes brought about by the action/movement   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * select sources to sample a variety of perspectives * account for different perspectives within the information gathered * use evidence from a variety of sources to support a point of view * use decision-making tools to propose individual and collective action, considering environmental, social, political and/or economic factors   **Task 1: Commentary (submitted)** | * select sources that examine social and/or political change in the USA, e.g. police reform, removal of monuments * explain the perspectives of counter-movements, e.g. All Lives Matter * select sources that examine social and/or political change in Australia, e.g. protection of right of protest, truth telling, removal of monuments * investigate tools that are building cultural competency within institutions, e.g. police cultural awareness training | Do Something – Black Lives Matter Protests: What’s Been Achieved So Far <https://www.dosomething.org/us/articles/black-lives-matter-protests-whats-been-achieved-so-far>  Reconciliation Australia – Australian Reconciliation Barometer <https://www.reconciliation.org.au/reconciliation/australian-reconciliation-barometer/> |
| 14–15 | Knowledge and understanding   * the effectiveness of the action/movement to create permanent, meaningful change * the barriers for future progress and possible ways to overcome these barriers   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * analyse relationships in information and/or data * evaluate information and use evidence to draw conclusions and develop explanations, considering different perspectives * use evidence to justify a course of action and predict the potential outcomes of the proposed action   **Task 4: Social action investigation (submitted)** | * analyse data showing the effectiveness of the BLM movement * investigate examples of barriers to future progress, e.g. falling public support for the movement, institutionalised racism, barriers of access to justice * collect and share examples of enablers to truth telling, e.g. RAPs, raising cultural awareness, access to translators * propose actions that can be taken at an individual level to raise awareness of the aims of the BLM movement | SBS – Three years on from the Black Lives Matter marches, Indigenous deaths in custody are at a record high <https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/three-years-on-from-the-black-lives-matter-marches-indigenous-deaths-in-custody-are-at-a-record-high/ma6sjvm32>  Pew Research Center – 8 facts about the Black Lives Matter <https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2023/07/12/8-facts-about-black-lives-matter/>  Reconciliation Australia – Reports <https://www.reconciliation.org.au/publications/reports> |

Sample teaching and learning program

Humanities and Social Sciences in Action

Semester 2 – Unit 2 – A sense of community

| **Weeks** | **Syllabus content** | **Suggested activities** | **Suggested resources** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1–3 | Knowledge and understanding  Overview of communities   * key terms and concepts   + active citizenship   + community   + diversity   + liveability   + local community   + stakeholders * different types of communities, including local community, community organisations, religious communities, cultural communities, and online communities * the roles and responsibilities, including active participation, of people within those communities * social issues that can occur within a local community   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * collect and record information from a range of primary and secondary sources * use subject-specific terminology and concepts   **Task 5: Commentary (issued)** | * create a glossary covering the key terminology and concepts * record information about characteristics and examples of different types of communities * brainstorm social issues relevant to the school and local community, e.g. youth crime, mental health, homelessness, cost of living * describe members’ roles in a community, e.g. joining community groups, volunteering, donating, fundraising * describe members’ responsibilities in a community, e.g. protest within the bounds of the law, voting in elections | Britannica – Social issue (definition) <https://www.britannica.com/topic/social-issue>  Pluss Communities – What makes a community? Characteristics and examples of community <https://www.plusscommunities.com/blog/what-makes-a-community>  Simplicable – 140 Examples of Social Issues <https://simplicable.com/society/social-issues> |
| 4 | Knowledge and understanding   * the role of community organisations in responding to social issues; for example, local councils, non-government organisations (NGOs) and charities   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * analyse relationships in information and/or data   **Task 6: Response** | * identifying community organisations that respond to social issues, e.g. Healthy Communities Foundation Australia, Clean Up Australia, local government recreation facilities * use information and data to investigate how NGOs, local councils and charities respond to social issues | ABC – In Volunteer Week, communities embrace Facebook callouts, informal help as traditional volunteering declines  [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023–05–19/informal-volunteering-increases-as-unpaid-charity-sporting-wanes/102363430](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-05-19/informal-volunteering-increases-as-unpaid-charity-sporting-wanes/102363430) |
| 5 | Knowledge and understanding   * the perspectives of stakeholders in contributing to public debate and issues * the role of government and/or other community organisations in managing resources and improving the liveability of a community   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * select sources to sample a variety of perspectives * account for different perspectives within the information gathered * use evidence from different sources to support a point of view | * collect media sources showing different perspectives of community stakeholders on social issues in the community, e.g. residents, local charities, businesses, sporting organisations * investigate community organisations and the ways in which they improve liveability, e.g. Containers for Change | ABC – Karratha business community calls for government, industry investment to improve liveability [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021–10–12/pilbara-community-calls-for-investment-to-strengthen-towns/100530194](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-10-12/pilbara-community-calls-for-investment-to-strengthen-towns/100530194) |
| 6–7 | Knowledge and understanding  Focus area 1: Engagement with the community  Students study at least one contemporary community service category related to improving communities. They explore the potential issues the service faces and how those issues are currently being addressed. Students investigate any further actions required/expected by governments, communities or other individuals that could enhance or further improve this service category.  For the selected service or category students investigate:   * reasons why the service is important within the community * how different groups access the service within the community   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * evaluate information and use evidence to draw conclusions and develop explanations, considering different perspectives * reflect on why conclusions may change in the future | **To exemplify the course content, homelessness services is the selected service category.**   * identify the causes of homelessness in the community, e.g. financial pressures, abuse/neglect, lack of available housing * describe and account for trends in homelessness within a community * investigate how homelessness affects different groups in the community, e.g. people with mental illness, young people * identify types of homelessness services, e.g. prevention, early intervention, crisis and post crisis assistance * evaluate one element of the WA government homelessness strategy | Uniting WA – Homelessness services in Perth <https://unitingwa.org.au/services/homelessness/>  Australian Institute of Health and Welfare – Homelessness and homelessness services <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/australias-welfare/homelessness-and-homelessness-services>  Government of Western Australia – All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia’s 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020–2030 <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/all-paths-lead-home-western-australias-10-year-strategy-homelessness-2020–2030> |
| 8 | Knowledge and understanding   * how the service improves liveability within the community   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * select sources to sample a variety of perspectives * evaluate information and use evidence to draw conclusions and develop explanations, taking into account different perspectives | * use evidence to describe the better life outcomes for vulnerable people because of homelessness services * collect evidence of the benefits of providing homelessness services to the community | SBS – How liveable is your community? It may depend on your age and gender <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/how-liveable-is-your-community-it-may-depend-on-your-age-and-gender/wrj05952h> |
| 9–10 | Knowledge and understanding   * potential issues associated with providing and/or maintaining the service and actions that can be taken to improve and ensure the sustainability of the service   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * use decision-making tools to propose individual and collective action, taking into account environmental, social, political and/or economic factors * use evidence to justify a course of action and predict the potential outcomes of the proposed action   **Task 7: Response** | * describing the system barriers to accessing homelessness services, e.g. availability of affordable housing, government funding * describe the service barriers to accessing homelessness services, cost of services to providers * describing the personal barriers to accessing homelessness services, e.g. lack of identification documentation * propose and evaluate approaches to improve services and/or remove barriers, e.g. service integration * evaluate community opposition to homelessness services in their community, e.g. NIMBYism | ABC – Future of homelessness accommodation program left in lurch as funding yet to be renewed [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024–03–18/nsw-together-home-program-funding-homelessness-accommodation/103583680](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-03-18/nsw-together-home-program-funding-homelessness-accommodation/103583680)  ABC – As the WA government and the City of Perth bicker, dozens of vulnerable women are about to lose the roof over their heads [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023–11–28/safe-night-space-political-football-as-homeless-women-pay-price/103154976](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-11-28/safe-night-space-political-football-as-homeless-women-pay-price/103154976)  Britannica – NIMBY sociology <https://www.britannica.com/topic/NIMBY> |
| 11–12 | Knowledge and understanding  Focus area 2: Influencing community change  Students study at least one contemporary example of a community initiative by an individual, group, organisation or community that has contributed to social change. They explore the impacts this change has had on a community and how this initiative can be improved and implemented by other communities. For the selected community initiative students investigate:  * the type of community initiative * how this initiative is accessed in the community   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * construct a range of questions to investigate a specific topic or issue * develop a coherent plan for an individual or collaborative inquiry and/or social action * use appropriate formats, either individually or in negotiation with a group, to communicate findings that suit audience and purpose   **Task 5: Commentary (submitted)**  **Task 8: Social action investigation (issued)** | **To exemplify the course content, Foodbank is the selected community initiative.**   * outline the role of Foodbank   + provision of food for people suffering food insecurity   + funds, food and services donated to Foodbank by farmers, manufacturers, retailers and individuals   + access through provision of groceries to charities, schools and individuals   + use of bricks and mortar location and mobile foodbanks   + cooking classes focusing on cooking healthy meals on a budget * plan for possible volunteering opportunities with Foodbank or similar organisations * engage in social action with a food relief organisation, e.g. volunteering in school-based breakfast club * prepare a low-cost meal plan for people who require food relief | Food Bank – Community Kitchen <https://www.foodbank.org.au/WA/community-kitchen/?state=wa>  Foodbank – Foodbank Hunger Report 2023 <https://reports.foodbank.org.au/foodbank-hunger-report-2023/> |
| 13–14 | Knowledge and understanding   * how individuals and stakeholders, including the media, have contributed to positive and/or negative impacts by either escalating issues or assisting with solutions for social change   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * use appropriate ethical protocols and scholarship throughout the research and communication process * identify the reliability, bias, usefulness and currency of primary and/or secondary sources | * evaluate a range of media coverage of food affordability challenges * compare food costs from various places * examine the media’s use of individual stories to develop empathy and encourage active participation | ABC – Food insecurity is estimated to have reached almost 4 million Australian homes this year [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023–10–23/food-insecurity-rising-in-australia-foodbank-hunger-report-shows/103002120](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-10-23/food-insecurity-rising-in-australia-foodbank-hunger-report-shows/103002120)  ABC – Hundreds of Australians say they skip meals, visit food banks and ‘dumpster dive’ as the cost of living crisis continues [https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024–03–05/food-insecurity-cost-of-living/103521508](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-03-05/food-insecurity-cost-of-living/103521508)  ABC – Unlocking millions of tonnes of wasted food to help those in need the aim food tax bill https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-09-29/tax-incentive-for-food-manufacturers-to-aid-donation-expenses/104399734 |
| 15 | Knowledge and understanding   * the influence/impact of the community initiative on social change in the community * how this initiative can be improved and/or adapted by a range of other communities   Humanities and Social Sciences skills   * analyse relationships in information and/or data * use evidence to justify a course of action and predict the potential outcomes of the proposed action * reflect on own learning to review original understandings * reflect on why conclusions may change in the future   **Task 8: Social action investigation (submitted)** | * analyse the relationships in data showing food insecurity in the community and the level of service delivery by Foodbank * compare Foodbank with similar community services offered across Australia * evaluate government programs for food affordability used across communities, regions and/or countries over time | The Guardian – ’Without them I’d be starving’: cost-of-living crisis forcing more Australian than ever to rely on food banks <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/jul/15/without-them-id-be-starving-cost-of-living-crisis-forcing-more-australians-than-ever-to-rely-on-food-banks> |