Australian Studies aims to inform students of some of the aspects of the historical development of Australia and highlight some of the important physical, social, political and economic issues and events which have helped shape the development of Australia as an independent, modern nation. The study of issues, events, attitudes and values in the Australian context along with the development of academic skills will assist students in their study of Humanities units at the tertiary level. In addition, all students, especially international students, should acquire a better appreciation of the environment in which they live and learn to think more critically about issues facing people in the 21st century.

On successful completion of this unit, students should be able to:
1. demonstrate an understanding of key events, processes and debates in the history of Australia
2. demonstrate an understanding of the difference between primary and secondary sources and a basic ability to interpret both
3. evaluate competing interpretations of central debates in contemporary Australia, including (but not limited to) those surrounding the issues of human rights, multiculturalism, religion and social welfare
4. present ideas effectively in written, oral and digital form, and
5. demonstrate an understanding of some of the distinguishing geographical, social and political features of contemporary Australian society.
Unit content

In this unit students will learn about:
- Australian geography and demography
- Aboriginal Australian civilisation and connections to Asia
- Aboriginal Australians and European visitors
- Colonial Australia: Australian Britons and Aboriginal dispossession
- Australian nation building: Federation, ANZAC and looking to America
- Australia and migration: from White Australia to multiculturalism
- Australian identity
- Australia in Asia, and
- issues in contemporary Australia

Mode of delivery

This unit consists of six hours of tutorials each week as well as online activities via vUWS.

Online learning requirements

Essential requirements

Essential text:

- There is no essential text for this unit.

Further resources:

- Fraser, I, Gionee, J, Fraser, S 2011, *Economics for business*.
- Mackay, H 1999, *Turning point; Australians choosing their future*, Pan Macmillan, Sydney, NSW.
ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

Assessment for this unit will be based on the following components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Learning outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Mandatory task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. In-class test (50 minutes)</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1, 2, 4 and 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Expository essay (1000 words)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1, 3, 4 and 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Showcase presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1, 2, 3 and 4</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Final examination (2 hours)</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1, 3, 4 and 5</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For details of assessment due dates, please refer to the learning guide for this unit.

All marks will be determined in accordance with The College Assessment Policy.

All assessment tasks are mandatory unless otherwise specified. Should a student fail to attempt/submit the first formal assessment task in a unit, they will be deemed to be at risk and will need to follow an intervention plan in order not to receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade. However, failure to attempt/submit all other mandatory assessment tasks will result in an immediate FNS grade for the unit.

To pass this unit, students must:

- attain an overall mark of at least 50% for the unit
- submit/complete all required items of assessment and activities, and
- keep a copy of all work submitted.