

Modern History: Concepts and topics across units

	UNIT 1:	UNIT 2:	UNIT 3:	UNIT 4:
	Understanding the Modern World	Movements for Change in the 20th century	Modern Nations in the 20th century	The Modern World since 1945
THEMES AND CONCEPTS	Unit focus developments or turning points that have helped to define the modern world, and the ideas that inspired them the application of reason to human affairs the transformation of production, consumption, transport and communications the challenge to social hierarchy and hereditary privilege the assertion of inalienable rights the new principles of government by consent	Unit focus • significant movements that led to change in society and that have been subject to political debate • individuals, groups and institutions that have challenged existing political structures, accepted social organisation and prevailing economic models to transform societies	Unit focus the crises that confronted nations, their responses to these crises the path of development that was taken the social, economic and political order that was established internal divisions and external threats	Unit focus • significant and distinctive features of the modern world • the nature of the world order, including shifting international tensions, alliances and power blocs • the nature of various conflicts and regional and international attempts to create peace and security • the emergence of Asia as a significant international political and economic force and the nature of engagement by and with Australia • the implications of globalisation with the ever-increasing mobility of people, and the growth of the global economy and overall rise in living standards
	Key concepts significance changing representations and interpretations historical legacy	Key concepts • factors leading to change • the changing nature of movements • changing perspectives • significance	Key concepts cause and effect change and continuity significance contestability changing representations and interpretations	Key concepts
TOPICS	Students study TWO topics with at least ONE to be chosen from the topic electives below, which are to be taught with the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit. An alternative significant development may be chosen as one of the two topics of study in this unit. The Enlightenment, 1750 – 1789 The American Revolution, 1763 – 1812 The French Revolution, 1774 – 1799 The Industrial Revolutions, 1750 – 1890s The Age of Imperialism, 1848 - 1914	Students study TWO of the following 20 th century movements, which are to be taught with the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: 1. Women's movements 2. Recognition and rights of Indigenous peoples 3. Decolonisation 4. The Civil Rights movement in the USA 5. Workers' movements	Students study TWO of the following topics, one from List 1 and one from List 2, which are to be taught with the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: List 1 1. United States of America, 1917 – 1945 2. Australia, 1916 – 1949 3. Germany, 1918 – 1945 4. Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917 - 1945 List 2 5. Japan, 1931 - 1967 6. India, 1947 – 1974 7. Indonesia, 1942 – 1974 8. China, 1937 – 1976	Students study ONE of the following topics, with a focus on the period 1945 – 2010, which is to be taught with the requisite historical skills described at the start of the unit: 1. The Changing World Order 2. Engagement with Asia 3. A Globalised World 4. Movements of People 5. The Struggle for Peace in the Middle East 6. The Search for Peace and Security