This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.
Unit Name | Issues in Australian Society  
---|---
Unit Code | HT220  
Awards | Bachelor of Education (Middle Years) - History minor  
| Bachelor of Education (Secondary) - History teaching area  
| Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Secondary) - History major/minor  
| This unit is able to be undertaken towards other CHC awards according to course rules and the meeting of prerequisite requirements, as applicable.  
Core/Elective | Elective  
Prerequisite | 20 credit points of 100-level HT units  
Mode | Internal  
Delivery/Contact hrs | Class contact 33 hours  
| Engagement with unit materials 44 hours  
| Assignment preparation 63 hours  
| Total 140 hours  
Unit Rationale | This unit endeavours to approach Australian History from a social history perspective, examining a range of social and cultural issues which have contributed significantly to the current attitudes, values, status and identity of the Australian people. This is particularly important for students who generally hold to a Christian worldview of this topic. While the unit will necessarily involve a range of core experiences, there will also be scope to investigate issues of topical relevance or of particular interest to the individual student through a research project. This will provide students with a valuable opportunity to further develop their knowledge, skills and values regarding historical research and its analysis in a meaningful and relevant way.  
| The overall aim of the unit is to build up a comprehensive and critical picture of contemporary Australian society, founded on a careful and detailed investigation of the trends and influences which have given Australian society its distinctive characteristics, both positive and negative. This acquisition of balanced historical perspectives on issues of current importance will help to shape students’ perceptions of the social and cultural issues of significance in the twenty-first century.  
Learning Outcomes:  
On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they have:  
1. Discussed issues, trends and themes in Australian society.  
2. Analysed the interaction of social, political and cultural factors in the shaping of modern Australian society.  
3. Applied this understanding to the development of an appreciation of the nature and character of Australian society.  
4. Appreciated how the examination of past events might illustrate the critical values and choices in Australia’s social experience.  
5. Investigated recent periodical literature and diverse historiographical material.  
6. Written at an appropriate tertiary standard (with special attention to correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, vocabulary, usage, sentence structure, logical relations, style, referencing and presentation).
## Content:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Studying Australia: Reasons and approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Regionalism and urbanisation in the nineteenth century</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>Interpretations of the Aboriginal past</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Australian culture and identity</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The individual and the State</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Multiculturalism and race relations</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Gender relations</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The Australian family</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Poverty and inequality in Australia: Questioning the egalitarian myth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Set Text Requirements:


## Recommended Readings:

- Davison, G 2000, *The Use and Abuse of Australian History*, Allen & Unwin, St Lepnards, NSW.
### Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Topic/s</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Week Due</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Presentation and Paper (2000 words)</td>
<td>To be chosen in consultation with the lecturer.</td>
<td>1, 3, 5</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Paper (3000 words)</td>
<td>To be chosen in consultation with the lecturer.</td>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>60%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Unit Overview:

This unit takes a balanced social historical perspective on the issues that have shaped the Australian national identity, particularly in the socio-cultural areas. It examines the influences and the trends that have led to how Australians see themselves and how the outside world perceives them.