

# AUSTRALIAN & GLOBAL POLITICS

VCE Australian and Global Politics offers students the opportunity to engage with key political issues and develop the knowledge and skills to navigate the world as informed and active citizens.

The course looks at power and political actors on a both a national and global scale, focusing on political perspectives, interests, and significance. It also looks at the challenges to democracy both here in Australia and abroad. Looking at contemporary case studies from the last 10 years, students develop the ability to analyse the external factors contributing to political stability and change.

Australian and Global Politics provides knowledge and skills that prepare students for a formal study at the tertiary level or in a vocational education and training setting. It may lead to career opportunities in range of careers, including academia, management and government. Students may also pursue occupations in corporate and private enterprises in fields such as journalism, education, law, research and politics.

## Unit 1 Politics, Power & Political Actors

### COURSE OUTLINE:

In this unit students are introduced to key political concepts with a focus on different forms of power. They explore the different kinds of political actors that are involved in issues on both a national and global scale, analysing how their actions contribute to political stability and change. Students delve into the ideologies that shape political perspectives and interests. To demonstrate their understanding of the key knowledge and skills, students will look critically at a contemporary contested political issue both nationally and globally, identifying the causes and consequences and measuring the political significance.

### AREAS OF STUDY:

- Power and national political actors
- Power and global political actors

### OUTCOMES:

On completion of this unit, students should be able to:

1. Explain the sources of power and legitimacy of national political actors and analyse the political significance of Australian political actors' use of power in a contested domestic political issue.
2. Analyse the power, interests and perspectives of global political actors and evaluate their political significance in at least one global issue.

### ASSESSMENT:

See Unit 2

## Unit 2 Democracy: Stability & Change

### COURSE OUTLINE:

In this unit, students investigate the key principles of democracy and assess the degree to which these principles are expressed, experienced and challenged, in Australia and internationally. They consider democratic principles in the Australian context and complete an in-depth study of a political issue or crisis that inherently challenges basic democratic ideas or practice. Students also investigate the degree to which global political actors and trends can challenge, inhibit or undermine democracy, and evaluate the political significance of these challenges.

### AREAS OF STUDY:

- Issue for Australia's democracy
- Global challenges to democracy

### OUTCOMES:

On completion of this unit, students should be able to:

1. Analyse at least one Australian political issue and evaluate the extent to which Australian democracy and democratic principles are upheld.
2. Analyse at least one global challenge to the legitimacy and spread of democracy and evaluate the political significance of this challenge to democratic principles.

### ASSESSMENT:

S or N based on the demonstrated achievement of the outcomes specified above.