

AUSTRALIAN & GLOBAL POLITICS

Unit 3

Global Cooperation and Conflict

COURSE OUTLINE:

In this unit, students investigate an issue and a crisis that pose challenges to the global community. Students begin with an investigation into an issue of global scale, such as climate change, global economic instability, the issue of development or weapons of mass destruction. Students also examine the causes and consequences of a humanitarian crisis that requires an emergency response. They consider the causes of these issues and crises and investigate their consequences on a global level and for a variety of global political actors. Students develop an appreciation for the perspectives and interests global political actors bring to contemporary issues and crises, which can be multifaceted and changeable. Students consider how the actions and responses of global actors contribute to creating global and regional political stability and/or change.

AREAS OF STUDY:

- Global issues, global responses
- Contemporary crises: conflict, stability and change

OUTCOMES:

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

1. Analyse the causes and consequences of a global issue and evaluate the effectiveness of global actors' responses in resolving the issue.
2. Analyse the causes and consequences of one contemporary crisis and discuss how global actors' responses have contributed to political stability and/or change.

ASSESSMENT:

See Unit 4

Unit 4

Power in the Indo-Pacific

COURSE OUTLINE:

In this unit, students investigate the strategic competition for power and influence in the Indo-Pacific region. They consider the interests and perspectives of global political actors within the region, including the challenges to regional cooperation and stability. Building on their study of global issues and contemporary crises in Unit 3, students develop their understanding of power and national interests through an in-depth examination of one state's perspectives, interests and actions. Students also examine Australia's strategic interests and actions in the region and consider how Australia's responses to regional issues and crises may have contributed to political stability and/or change.

AREAS OF STUDY:

- Power and the national interest
- Australia in the Indo-Pacific

OUTCOMES:

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

1. Analyse the various sources and forms of power used by a state in the Indo-Pacific region and evaluate the extent to which it is able to achieve its national interests.
2. Analyse different perspectives on Australia's national interests in the Indo-Pacific region and evaluate the degree to which Australia's pursuit of its national interests has resulted in cooperation or conflict with three states in the region.

ASSESSMENT:

S or N based on the demonstrated achievement of the outcomes specified above, School Assessed Coursework (SAC's) and end-of-year examination.

Unit 3 School Assessed Coursework: 25%

Unit 4 School Assessed Coursework: 25%

Units 3 and 4 end-of-year examination: 50%