

History: Revolutions

Units 3-4

This subject will help students understand the causes, processes and patterns in violent and radical change in societies. Students explore revolutions and evaluate the causes of tension and conflicts and the role played by ideas, movements and leaders in revolutionary struggles. Students will also evaluate the role of ideas such as Marxism, liberty, equality and nationalism, as well as significant leaders and movements in shaping the revolutionary struggles.

Two of the following revolutions will be selected to study in detail in Unit 3 and 4. This will be made known to students before final selections are due. Student voice and teacher expertise will be considered in the final decision.

The American Revolution of 1776

The French Revolution of 1789

The Russian Revolution of October 1917

The Chinese Revolution of 1949

UNIT 3

Students will examine the role and significance of ideas, leaders, movements and events in the chosen revolution. An analysis of the challenges facing the emerging new order, and the way in which attempts were made to create a new society will be conducted. A second revolution will be explored in Unit 4.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Study of paintings, drawings and cartoons, film analysis, role plays, group tasks, research activities and historiography exercises.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Reading, group and class discussions, formal writing and ICT activities.

ASSESSED TASKS

Analysis of visual and/or written documents and a research report.

UNIT 4

Students will refine, apply and improve the same set of skills to a second selected revolution.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Group tasks, analysis of propaganda posters, documentaries and research activities, historiography exercises.

KEY SKILLS REQUIRED

Reading, analysis and synthesis, essay writing, research, analysis of historical sources and historians' interpretations.

ASSESSED TASKS

SACs, Historiography exercise, essay and an end of year written examination.

VCAA ASSESSMENT – The overall Study Score will consist of:

School Assessed Coursework Unit 3 (25%), School Assessed Coursework Unit 4 (25%), 2 hour written examination in November (50%).