

HSIE newsletter – term 1 2020

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25 February 2020

Welcome to Term 1, 2020.

We would like to publicly recognise the tremendous work of the emergency service workers across NSW. It is important to show our gratitude to the hardworking frontline firefighters who have protected our lives and our communities. We would further like to recognise the courageous volunteer firefighters who have sacrificed their lives to defend others. The heartbreaking loss we have faced during this fire emergency has shown our capacity to work together, displayed our humanity for all Australians and has promoted acts of benevolence in our society. During these challenging times, we hope all students and teachers have returned to school safe and ready for a positive and successful 2020.

A note from Jennifer Curtis: after many years in my dream role as HSIE 7-12 Advisor, I am fortunate to announce that I have commenced a new role in Learning and Teaching as the Humanities Professional Learning Coordinator. Whilst this will still see me very much involved in all things HSIE, my wings will expand to include English, Creative Arts and PDHPE secondary key learning areas. Thank you so much for your continued positive encouragement of our subjects, and I know you will still receive the very best curriculum support from our team in the future.

Alice Springs Education Declaration

In December, Australia's Education Ministers have committed to the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration which has set two national education goals for the coming decade. These goals are interconnected -

- Goal 1: The Australian education system promotes excellence and equity
- Goal 2: All young Australians become:
 - confident and creative individuals
 - successful lifelong learners
 - active and informed members of the community.

Follow the link for further information from the Education Council about the [Alice Springs \(Mparntwe\) Education Declaration](#).

NESA curriculum review

The NSW curriculum review interim report has been released and the second public consultation has now closed. In December, the Learning and Teaching Directorate submitted their response to the review. In early 2020, the final report is due to the Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning. As a result of the curriculum review, the draft Stage 6 geography syllabus has been “parked” or put on hold by NESA. For more information about the status of the draft Stage 6 geography syllabus please contact myself or NESA’s HSIE curriculum inspector [Darren Taylor](#).

HSIE support 2020

The revised HSIE electives (commerce, history elective, geography elective and work education) are due for implementation this year. During Term 4 2019, we delivered state-wide professional learning about the HSIE electives to assist schools with the revised syllabuses. The HSIE Update 7-10 was received very well – as a result we are offering a number of additional sessions at the end of Term 1 and start of Term 2 2020. Keep your eye on Schoolbiz for details on those sessions.

To further support the implementation of the commerce, the geography elective, and the history elective syllabuses we have developed supporting documents that will be uploaded to our website in late January-early February. These learning and teaching frameworks will be posted to the following [link](#).

The main professional learning events this year will include:

- Leading an HSIE key learning area or faculty K-10
- Pedagogical success and teacher satisfaction in HSIE K-12
- Assessment in HSIE 7-10: policies and processes for teacher practice
- Cognitive load theory – practical implications for the HSIE classroom.

These professional learning events will be advertised in SchoolBiz and begin to be delivered throughout 2020. We will work very closely with School Services in order to ensure that as many geographical areas of our state can be covered.

We will continue conducting HSIE state-wide Adobe connect meetings this year. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss initiatives and projects that will support colleagues implementing and teaching HSIE syllabuses and to identify, and suggest solutions to, issues related to the HSIE key learning area. Please join us at <https://connect.schools.nsw.edu.au/hsie/>. The dates and times of the Adobe connect meetings are:

- Term 1 - 19 March 2020 4-4:30pm
- Term 2 – 16 June 2020 4-4:30pm
- Term 3 – 9 September 2020 4-4:30pm
- Term 4 – 30 November 2020 4-4:30pm.

This year, we will publish a range of support materials for HSIE teachers, including:

- HSIE electives 7-10 support materials
- history and geography for those new to teaching the subjects
- head teacher HSIE handbook
- learning progressions in history and geography K-10 resources
- assessment and programming resources.

New HSIE State-wide Microsoft Team

We have set up a state-wide virtual staffroom using the Microsoft Teams platform, which is available through your department portal under the Microsoft 365 icon. You can download Teams as a desktop and mobile app, and the platform provides space for conversations and collaboration across the state, as well as a resource depository for sharing teaching and learning ideas.



If you would like to be part of the team, please follow this [join link](#) (or if you have Teams already, use the join code 93rzw6k).

We will use this platform as an additional source of information, allowing us to promote new resources and upcoming professional learning, as well as using it as a space to be able to discuss our syllabuses and subjects with a wide range of teachers.

High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) Policy

Have you read the Department's new [HPGE policy](#) and considered how it might relate to your work in HSIE? This is a learning and teaching policy for all schools P-12 based around the principles of equity and excellence which will be implemented in schools from

day 1, 2021. You will notice four domains of potential are described – creative, intellectual, physical and social-emotional. The inclusiveness of the new policy has been applauded by school leaders and teachers from across the state. Advice, support and resources can be found on the dedicated [HPGE web-section](#). Face-to-face and online [professional learning options](#) are available for school leaders and teachers. Join the High Potential and Gifted Education Yammer page through the DoE portal for all the updates and when face-to-face PL will be available near you!

Our HSIE team

Our HSIE team continues to be available to support your work and their details are below:

- Kate Littlejohn – R/ HSIE Advisor 7-12 | T 03 5898 3721 | kate.richardson11@det.nsw.edu.au
- Lyndal Bimson - R/ Curriculum Support Project Advisor - HSIE | T 02 9203 9927 | lyndal.bimson1@det.nsw.edu.au
- Will Burbidge – Curriculum Support Project Officer - HSIE | T 02 4633 2736 | william.burbidge@det.nsw.edu.au
- Ross Mackay - Curriculum Support Project Officer – HSIE | ross.mackay@det.nsw.edu.au
- Jennifer Curtis – Humanities Professional Learning Coordinator | T 02 7814 2794 | jennifer.m.curtis@det.nsw.edu.au

Of course, with our colleague, Theone Ellas (K-6 HSIE Advisor theone.ellas@det.nsw.edu.au), we will continue to support HSIE teachers' statewide in implementing our variety of HSIE syllabuses.

Kind regards,

Will Burbidge

HSIE Curriculum Support Project Officer

Upcoming events

History Teachers Association NSW conference and courses

The 2020 HTA NSW state conference will take place at the University of Sydney on 24 – 25 of July 2020.

Additional professional learning being offered by HTANSW includes:

- Stage 6 History Teachers' Day - 28 March 2020 at the Gleeson Theatre, Australian Catholic University
- Early Career History Teacher Day - 30 Mar 2020 at the State Library of NSW
- Introduction to Extension History - 14 Aug 2020 at the Professional Teachers Council Rooms

History Week 2020

History Week is the annual, state-wide celebration of history organised by the History Council of NSW. The History Week title for 2020 is 'History: What is it good for?' commencing 5 - 13 September 2020.

Learning at the Anzac memorial

The Anzac memorial (Hyde Park, Sydney) offers learning opportunities for students. These include:

- 20 lives through 20 objects – duration 2 hours, times 9:30-11:30am; 12:00-2:00pm (Stage 5: Years 9 & 10)
- Devoted service - duration 2 hours, times 9:30-11:30am; 12:00-2:00pm (Stage 5: Years 9 & 10)
- Anzac war horses – duration 2 hours, times 9:30-11:30am; 12:00-2:00pm (Stage 5: Years 9 & 10)
- War at our door – duration 2 hours, times 9:30-11:30am; 12:00-2:00pm (Stage 5: Years 9 & 10)
- The Anzac memorial - The past is present – duration 2 hours, times 9:30-11:30am; 12:00-2:00pm

Save our catchment virtual excursion

Written by Melissa Ellis from Southern Cross School, this virtual excursion offers twelve video lessons that forms a sample investigation of pest species invading riparian zones.

Filmed on Bundjalung Country, the excursion traverses the mid-north coast NSW Upper Clarence River Catchment. Connecting each video are classroom and field learning tasks.

Be sure to use the accompanying learning materials and solutions.

Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) competitions and awards

DVA runs and supports several competitions to encourage students to develop an understanding of Australia's wartime history, including the Anzac Day Schools Awards, the National History Challenge and the Simpson Prize Competition. Follow the [link](#) for further information.

Environmental and zoo education centres (EZEC)

The [EZEC](#) are NSW public schools staffed by trained teachers, located across NSW and are open for 2020 bookings. They support schools by providing:

- resources to help integrate environmental education across a variety of subject areas
- professional learning opportunities for teachers
- assistance in implementing more sustainable practices
- opportunities for student learning and environmental leadership
- excursion programs for visiting school groups, linked to NSW syllabuses, that utilise the unique features of the centre's location
- incursion programs for schools, linked to syllabuses and classroom learning pre and post excursion support materials.

Geography Teachers Association NSW and ACT course and conference

GTA NSW & ACT are conducting their annual conference at Sydney Olympic Park on Thursday 21st May to the 23rd May 2020. Follow the GTA [link](#) for further information.

GTA are conducting a [China study tour](#) from 10th of April to 25th of April 2020. The tour will:

- develop the skills of intercultural understanding whilst investigating geographical knowledge and understanding through an Asia-focused lens.
- be aligned to specific sections of the NSW K – 10 Geography syllabus and Australian Curriculum with an emphasis placed on Stages 4 and 5 geography.

2020 Australian geography competition (commences 27 March – 10 April) is a contest for Australian secondary school students which assesses their geographical knowledge and skills. The competition aims to encourage student interest in geography and to reward student excellence. The competition is for students from Year 7 to Year 12, costs \$4 per student, with no minimum number of students or other registration fees.

EBE NSW professional development event – economic skills in the HSC economics course

The EBE's HSC [economics course](#) will take place on Wednesday 12 February 2020 at 4.15pm - 7.40pm. The course includes a range of mathematical and graphing skills for students. This workshop is a crash course for teachers on the skills they need to teach their Year 12 economics students.

Bridging the textbook gaps on how the Reserve Bank of Australia implements monetary policy

A free Stage 6 economics teaching resource is available from the [Reserve Bank of Australia](#) (RBA). The resource explains the RBA's implementation of monetary policy and provides a number examples. The RBA also have a variety of resources that are useful for teaching the revised commerce syllabus.

2020 Commonwealth Bank teaching awards

The Commonwealth Bank teaching awards are national awards open to registered teachers and school leaders. Twelve registered teachers or school leaders are each awarded a 'Teaching Fellowship' valued at \$45,000, with the majority being educators working in schools in disadvantaged communities. Follow the [link](#) for further information.

Yarning 2020: education chats with our neighbours conference

Focus of the [Yarning 2020 conference](#)

The program draws on the OECD's [The Future of Education and Skills 2030 project](#) and invites educators to consider:

- What knowledge, skills, attitudes and values will today's educators need to teach to students for them to thrive and shape their world in 2030 and beyond?
- How can instructional systems, including schools and universities, develop such knowledge, skills, attitudes and values effectively?

National Museum of Australia ‘Defining Moments’ competition

In 2020 the National Museum of Australia will be conducting a national secondary schools competition for the Defining Moments Digital Classroom. This will involve secondary school students from around Australia producing their own digital representation of a local community history defining moment. The competition will be formally launched early in 2020.

Schools will also be able to attend one of eight state and territory DMDC youth challenge one day workshops – see the adjacent promotional ‘ad’ for more details. These will be very popular so we encourage you to submit an expression of interest as soon as possible.

If you would like to stay in touch with the DMDC as we head into 2020 and the approaching launch of the website as well as the DMDC youth challenges and competition, write to us at the email address below.

David Arnold, Program Manager, DMDC (david.arnold@nma.gov.au)

Riverina History Hub – network meeting

The newly formed history teacher network, the Riverina History Hub, will hold its second meeting from 9am to 2:30pm on **8 April 2020** at the Albury Library/Museum. The day will involve

- professional learning on using Trove in the classroom
- workshopping of consistent marking practices using sample responses for the 2019 Modern and Ancient exams
- professional learning about the use of academic journals and databases through the library’s servers
- collaboration and networking to further develop and refine the network’s purpose and future directions

Morning tea and lunch will be provided, but schools will be responsible for casual relief for attending teachers. New members are encouraged to join us! Please register at the following link: <https://forms.gle/Z2ZtTk9skXe2Fpu77>

Connect with us

- Access news and updates for all key learning areas - including links to previous newsletters through [curriculum support news](#) and the [HSIE curriculum website](#). Please share this term's human society and its environment (HSIE) newsletter with your colleagues. Subscribe to this newsletter feed by filling out [this form](#). You can also use the QR code below.
- Make sure you subscribe to NESA [news](#)
- If you, or someone you know, is engaging in some inspiring HSIE pedagogy or professional learning please contact us.



Figure 1 - QR code to sign up to HSIE mailing list