

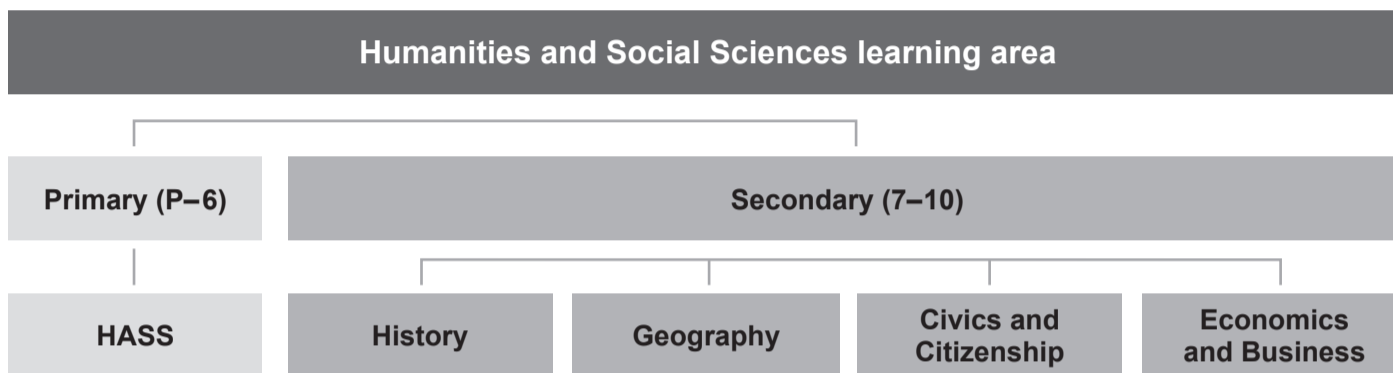
7–10 Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS): Overview

Australian Curriculum Version 9.0

The Australian Curriculum identifies and organises the essential knowledge, understandings and skills that students should learn. This overview summarises the key elements of this learning area.

HASS subjects

The HASS learning area comprises five subjects. There is one subject in P–6 called Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS). In Years 7–10, the HASS learning area consists of four subjects: History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business. This builds on the knowledge, understanding and skills learnt in the subject HASS. A separate subject overview is provided for the P–6 subject and for each Years 7–10 subject.



Concepts

Concepts underpin each subject in Humanities and Social Sciences. In P–6, these concepts are broad to encompass the essential content across History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship and Economics and Business. In Years 7–10, the concepts become more discipline-specific within each of the subjects.

Content descriptions

Content descriptions describe what is to be taught and what students are expected to learn. Content descriptions are organised through strands and sub-strands.

Knowledge and understanding strand

The Knowledge and understanding strand provides the contexts through which skills and understanding of the core concepts are developed in increasing complexity. Under each strand, curriculum content is further organised into sub-strands depending on the subject.

History	Geography	Civics and Citizenship	Economics and Business
Two to four sub-strands per year level	Two sub-strands per year level	Three sub-strands per year level	No sub-strands
Some sub-strands are mandatory	All sub-strands are mandatory	All sub-strands are mandatory	All content descriptions within the strands are mandatory
Selection of topics within each sub-strand			

Skills strand

The Skills strand is developed from P–6 HASS through to the four subjects in Years 7–10. The table below shows the relationship between the Skills sub-strands and each Years 7–10 HASS subject.

History	Geography	Civics and Citizenship	Economics and Business
Questioning and researching	Questioning and researching using geographical methods	Questioning and researching	Questioning and researching
Using historical sources	Interpreting and analysing geographical data and information	Analysis, evaluation and interpretation	Interpreting and analysing
Historical perspectives and interpretations	Concluding and decision-making	Civic participation and decision-making	Evaluating, concluding and decision-making
Communicating	Communicating	Communicating	Communicating

Achievement standards

Achievement standards for each subject describe the learning expected of students by the end of each year. In the Years 7–10 HASS subjects, the first paragraph of the achievement standard relates to understanding and the second paragraph relates to skills. A subject-specific achievement standard is provided for each year.

Find out more on the QCAA Australian Curriculum page at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/p-10/aciq.

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Rationale summary

'Humanities and Social Sciences is the study of human behaviour and interaction in social, cultural, environmental, economic, business, legal and political contexts.' It has a '... historical and contemporary focus, from personal to global contexts and considers the challenges that may occur in the future.'

Aims summary

Humanities and Social Sciences develops knowledge about, and understanding of, people, places, values and systems and the capacity to use skills to effectively participate in everyday life, now and in the future.

Year-by-year and banded curriculum

Level descriptions

Level descriptions provide an overview of the learning that students should experience in each year. In HASS, the level descriptions provide a focus of study and example inquiry questions for each year.

Year-by-year curriculum for	Banded curriculum for
Knowledge and understanding	Skills
Secondary	
7	7–8
8	
9	9–10
10	