

Learning area overview

Prep–Year 10 Australian Curriculum

7–10 Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

Australian Curriculum Version 8

The Australian Curriculum defines a solid foundation in knowledge, understanding, skills and values for all Australian students. This overview summarises key elements of this learning area.

Key ideas

Who we are, who came before us and traditions and values that have shaped societies.

How societies and economies operate and how they are changing over time.

The ways people, places, ideas and events are perceived and connected.

How people exercise their responsibilities, participate in society and make informed decisions.

HASS in 7–10

The HASS learning area consists of one subject in P–6 and four subjects in 7–10: History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business. This overview includes information specific to the 7–10 subjects. A separate overview is provided for the P–6 subject.

Subjects, rationale, aims

History	Geography	Civics and Citizenship	Economics and Business
Rationale summaries			
Promoting an understanding of societies, events, movements and developments that have shaped humanity.	Inspiring curiosity about the diversity of the world's places and reflecting on the interconnections between people, places and environments over time.	Exploring ways to shape lives, value belonging in a diverse and dynamic society, and positively contribute locally, nationally, regionally and globally.	Empowering active and effective participation in economic and business activities, while reflecting on the effects of decisions on people and places, now and in the future.
Aims summaries			
Developing knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the past and forces that shape societies.	Developing knowledge about, and respect of, places, people, cultures and environments throughout the world.	Developing active and informed citizens with the capacity and dispositions to participate as individuals in a globalised world.	Developing enterprising behaviours and capabilities to make informed decisions and understand the work and business environments.

Key inquiry questions

HASS inquiry questions provide a framework for developing students' knowledge, understanding and skills in each subject.

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.

Strands

Knowledge and understanding

History: overview and three depth studies

Geography: two units of study

Civics and Citizenship: three sub-strands

Economics and Business: four key organising ideas

Inquiry and skills

Inquiry and skills are subject-specific.

Sub-strands

Achievement standards

Achievement standards for each learning area or subject describe the learning expected of students at each year level or band of years. In HASS, the first paragraph of the achievement standard relates to understanding and the

second paragraph relates to inquiry and skills. In 7–10 HASS, a subject-specific achievement standard is provided for each year.

7–10 Rationale summaries

A rationale summary is provided for each of the four below.

7–10 Aims summaries

An aims summary is provided for each of the four subjects below.

7–10 Year-by-year and banded curriculum

Year description

Provides an overview of knowledge, understanding, key inquiry questions, and skills for each year.

Year-by-year curriculum for

Knowledge and understanding

Banded curriculum for

Inquiry and skills

Secondary

7	7–8
8	
9	9–10
10	

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