Welcome

Dear colleagues

Welcome back to school. We hope you have had a terrific break over the past month or so.

As you are aware, 2015 marks the complete implementation of the History Syllabus for all students in years 7-10 and soon the Geography K-10 Syllabus will be released. The HSIE Unit, Secondary Education, at the Learning and Leadership Directorate, will endeavour to support you as much as possible through these eNewsletters and also through SchoolBiz, Adobe Connect sessions, online resources, face-to-face meetings and involvement in specific projects.

Our main focuses this year will be:

- implementing the Stage 3/4 ‘Transition Communities in History’ project, which involves working with Educational Services teams and clusters of primary and secondary schools
- online publishing of filmed demonstration lessons, which will model inquiry-based learning practices
- Adobe Connect sessions in the areas of historical terminology and site studies
- online publishing of sample programs written for stages 4 and 5
- supporting HSIE and history faculties with the commemoration of the ANZAC Centenary
- Aboriginal education – initiatives to promote the excellent Aboriginal Studies courses and production of resources for History stage 5 ‘Core Study - Rights and Freedoms’
- supporting teachers in the implementation of the Geography K-10 Syllabus when it is released, with a range of courses and resources. In particular we will inform you of an Adobe Connect session ‘Geography Syllabus in a Nutshell’ that will occur shortly after the release of this syllabus.

We will also be trialling Statewide HSIE Network Meetings, in Week 8 of each term, using Adobe Connect. These webinars will provide a regular discussion forum on issues pertaining to HSIE and through which we can connect with other colleagues – particularly in rural and remote areas. We will email further details as they come to hand, but you are most welcome to join us. To prepare for these sessions, we recommend that you become familiar with Adobe Connect (ask your computer coordinator for guidance – all you need is a webcam, USB headset and a computer. We will send out a link in the email. A few clicks and you can participate in the webinar).
All the best for the term and please feel free to contact Jenny or myself if we can be of assistance.

_Pete Wilson_

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**Quote of the month**

I disapprove of what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it.

- Evelyn Beatrice Hall, in a quote often wrongly attributed to Voltaire

**Pinterest**

Thank you to all teachers who have sent in websites to add to Pinterest. Pinterest offers a summary of websites explicitly related to Secondary HSIE, teaching and learning.

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**BOSTES**

**Geography K-10 syllabus**

BOSTES is continuing to develop the _Geography K-10 Syllabus_, incorporating agreed Australian Curriculum content, following consultation with teachers and other stakeholders in Term 3, 2014.

In 2015, Year 7–10 schools will continue to use the current _Geography Years 7–10 Syllabus (2003)_.

Implementation dates for the new _Geography K-10 Syllabus_ will be determined and announced in 2015.

There are no scheduled changes for Geography Elective at this stage.

**History K-10 syllabus**

Implementation for the new _History 7-10 Syllabus_ is compulsory in 2015. Please note the following:
- in stage 4 two overview courses and six depth studies must be undertaken. A site study is compulsory, but it may be a virtual site.
- in stage 5 students must undertake two overview courses and the two core studies.
Additionally, students must study **at least two** of the other depth studies (that is, any two from depth studies 1, 2, 5 or 6). There are no prescribed hours for each depth study and the sequencing of overview courses and depth studies is completely at the discretion of a school’s (or community of school’s) programming team. A site study is also compulsory in this stage, but it may be a virtual site study.

Revised **Course Performance Descriptors** are now available at the BOSTES website, using the link provided.

**K-6 HSIE**

For your information, in 2015 your K–6 feeder schools will continue to teach the Environments, Cultures and Social Systems and Structures strands in the current HSIE K–6 Syllabus (1998), and adopt one of the following options:

- continue to teach the Change and Continuity strand from the HSIE K–6 Syllabus (1998) **OR**
- trial teaching the History K–6 outcomes and content from the new History K–10 Syllabus (2012) in place of the Change and Continuity strand.

Note that all K-6 schools will be required to implement the new History Syllabus in 2016.

Brooke Prideaux is the Senior Project Officer, Geography, at BOSTES and her contact details are: (02) 9367 8274 or brooke.prideaux@bostes.nsw.edu.au.

Congratulations to Darren Taylor who has been successful in applying for the position of Board Inspector, HSIE, a job vacated by the now retired Jennifer Lawless. Many of you will remember Darren from ACARA, as he was Senior Project Officer HSIE there. Darren’s contact details are as follows: (02) 9367 8151 or darren.taylor@bostes.nsw.edu.au.

Don’t forget to subscribe to the **BOSTES Bulletin**, to stay fully informed on a range of educational issues.

**Professional Development Opportunities**

- The Society and Culture Association will hold its first Professional Development Day 2015 at the State Library of NSW. ‘Moving up a mark range’ is the theme for this event – to be held on Thursday, 19 February OR Friday, 20 February. Registrations close 12 February - visit the Association’s website to register at http://www.scansw.com.au/.

- A Churchill Fellowship offers talented individuals the opportunity to travel to the far edges of the globe, conduct valuable research in their field and bring back knowledge, experience, ideas and innovation. Information on the range of scholarships is available at the Churchill Fellowship website.

- The Historical Novel Society Association is holding the 2015 conference on 20-22 March. For more information go to: http://hnsa.org.au/.

- Applications for the 2015 Premier’s Teacher Scholarships are now open. These scholarships allow successful applicants to undertake a five week study tour in one of the available scholarship categories. For more, go to http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/what-we-offer/awards-scholarships-and-grants/scholarships/premier-s-teacher-scholarships.

**Useful Links/Resources**

- Educational Services Team, to locate consultants in your local office: http://www.edservices.det.nsw.edu.au/

- The DEC has produced an outstanding resource called **Research and Adopt a Veteran**. I recommend that all schools should utilise this resource. I suggest allowing 2-4 weeks in your History Elective scope and sequence for term 1 for
this outstanding guided research project. There are many great resources available at the TALE website.

- Have you heard colleagues talking about the ‘Big History Project’ and want to learn more? This initiative that began in the Department of Modern History at Macquarie University is funded by the Bill Gates Foundation. It is the ultimate cross KLA collaboration – merging astrophysics, chemistry, geology, biology, archaeology, anthropology, history, literature, social sciences and art. To find out more visit the BHP Website or watch David Christian’s inspirational TED Talk.

- For teaching ideas in history, the BBC’s website is a suggested source:
  http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/
  http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/11_16/site/history.shtml

  For teaching ideas for geography, glance through BBC’s website:
  http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/11_16/site/geography.shtml

  Similarly, the BBC has interactive website material for Citizenship, Business Studies and Studies of Religion.

- The History Teachers’ Association of Australia has developed a number of Australian Curriculum units of work. These can be accessed and adapted for the NSW BOSTES syllabuses at http://www.achistoryunits.edu.au/.

- ABC radio’s History Under Siege is a four-part series that discusses the role of the historian amid sustained ideological battles over the creation of national narratives. Perfect for History Extension classes studying the history or culture wars. Follow the links below:
  Part 1 – Japan
  Part 2 – Argentina
  Part 3 – Australia
  Part 4 – France

- The UNAA has launched its UN Report Card which evaluates Australia’s meeting of its international obligations. This is relevant to many of the subjects taught in the HSIE KLA.

- For History Extension classes – the Public History Review is a peer reviewed journal, initiated by UTS Sydney, investigating the nature and forms of public history: how and to whom is the past communicated and how does the past operate in the present?

Cross-curriculum priority areas

Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia
The Asia Society website is an excellent site for accessing information to support the BOSTES syllabuses in all KLAs.

Competitions

- 2015 Australian History Competition - Entry/registration for the 2015 Year 8 and Year 10 competitions opens on 24 October 2014.
- Geography Competition is to be held from 23 March – 1 April, 2015. Details at http://www.geographycompetition.org.au/
- Asia Wise competition can be undertaken anytime between February 1st and December 4th that fits with your teaching program. You need to register two
- For details of the Australian Economics and Business Studies competition see [http://studentcompetitions.org/](http://studentcompetitions.org/) (2015 competition details are not online to date)

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**Unsubscribe**

If you do not wish to receive further eNewsletters or information from the HSIE Advisors at the DEC Learning and Leadership Directorate, please email Pete Wilson at [peter.c.wilson@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peter.c.wilson@det.nsw.edu.au).

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Abode Syllabus PLUS: Australian Curriculum 7-10  

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**Professional Associations**

Professional associations support the work that we do. Please consider joining any relevant associations. Links are provided below:

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