

Society and Culture

The following contains a description of the course we offer to students at St Marys Senior High. It is intended as a guide to help you select your subjects and you should read it carefully.

Please note:

- The details given represent the way that the course is delivered at St Marys Senior High and may involve different choices from the way other schools might operate the same course.
- Classes can only be formed where sufficient students select the particular course. The fact that a course is listed here is not a commitment to run the course in a particular year.
- The arrangements for particular courses are subject to change for a variety of reasons.

Society and Culture - Course Details

Units	Type	ATAR	Faculty Teaching This Course
2	Board Developed Course – Examinable at the HSC, marks can be used to count towards an ATAR	A – Counts towards an ATAR with no restrictions	HSIE

What will I be doing in this course?

Society and Culture in both Preliminary and HSC courses involves the study of a range of topics relating to the study of societies, cultures and human interaction within these.

Preliminary course

- The Social and Cultural World – students analyse the interactions between persons and groups, and analyse our own society in order to understand other societies.
- Personal and Social Identity – students investigate the process of socialisation, and the development of personal and social identity in individuals and groups
- Intercultural Communication – students look at the different forms of communication and learn how to overcome issues surrounding communication between cultures.

HSC course

- The Personal Interest Project (PIP) - worth 40% of the HSC mark (marked externally). This is a major research project that is integrated across the whole HSC course and draws together the interests, research skills and personal experiences of the student.

- Social and Cultural Continuity and Change – The focus of this unit is to understand the nature of social and cultural continuity and change through the application of research methods and social theory, in relation to a selected country, examples include India and Japan.
- Two depth studies chosen from the following:
 - Popular Culture, including a focus on a particular pop culture
 - Belief Systems and Ideologies, including a focus on a belief system such as Islam or an ideology such as Feminism
 - Social Inclusion and Exclusion, including a focus on a particular group
 - Social Conformity and Nonconformity, including a focus on a nonconformist group such as Extinction Rebellion

What should I be able to do at the end of the course?

As a result of studying Society and Culture, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes essential to achieving social and cultural literacy. They will develop these assets via the examination of the interactions between persons, societies, cultures and environment across time. Students will also be able to understand and utilise a range of research methods (such as interviews and questionnaires) to explore important concepts and issues.

How will this course help me in the future?

The Society and Culture course prepares students for immediate transition to work or tertiary study (especially in the humanities). Students learn to analyse issues, to write reports, to work in teams, to conduct individual research, to communicate with a variety of people in many ways, and to understand their place in the global community. The course is relevant for students now and into their futures. In terms of career prospects, Society and Culture would be particularly valuable to those students who may wish to undertake further study in fields such as education, journalism, law, politics, psychology, social and community work, sociology and town planning.