

UNIT 3 & 4 POLITICS

UNIT 3: Global cooperation and conflict

In this unit, students investigate an issue and a crisis that pose challenges to the global community. Students begin with an investigation into an issue of global scale, such as climate change, global economic instability, the issue of development or weapons of mass destruction. Students also examine the causes and consequences of a humanitarian crisis that may have begun in one state but which has crossed over into neighbouring states and requires an emergency response. This crisis must be chosen from the areas of human rights, armed conflict and the mass movement of people. They consider the causes of these issues and crises, and investigate their consequences on a global level and for a variety of global actors.

AREA OF STUDY 1

Global issues, global responses

OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the causes and consequences of a global issue and evaluate the effectiveness of global actors' responses in resolving the issue.

AREA OF STUDY 2

Contemporary crises: conflict, stability and change

OUTCOMES

Outcome 2: On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the causes and consequences of one contemporary crisis and discuss how global actors' responses have contributed to political stability and/or change.

UNIT 4: Power in the Indo-Pacific

In this unit, students investigate the strategic competition for power and influence in the Indo-Pacific region. They consider the interests and perspectives of global actors within the region, including the challenges to regional cooperation and stability. Building on their study of global issues and contemporary crises in Unit 3, students develop their understanding of power and national interests through an in-depth examination of one state's perspectives, interests and actions. Students must choose one state from the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of India, the Republic of Indonesia or the United States of America. Students also examine Australia's strategic interests and actions in the region and consider how Australia's responses to regional issues and crises may have contributed to political stability and/or change. They do this within the context of Australia's relationships with one Pacific Island state and two other regional states.

AREA OF STUDY 1

Power and the national interest

OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the various sources and forms of power used by a state in the Indo-Pacific region and evaluate the extent to which it is able to achieve its national interests.

AREA OF STUDY 2

Australia and the Indo-Pacific

OUTCOMES

Outcome 2: On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse different perspectives on Australia's national interests in the Indo-Pacific region and evaluate the degree to which Australia's pursuit of its national interests has resulted in cooperation or conflict with three states in the region.