Topic 5 Australia in the Vietnam War Era

This era was one of enormous social change and may be seen as a watershed in Australia’s post-war history. Students will examine the reasons for Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War and the social, political and cultural changes that resulted from it.

**Inquiry questions**

* How did the Australian government respond to the threat of communism after WWII?
* Why did Australia become involved in the Vietnam War?
* How did various groups respond to Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War?
* What was the impact of the war on Australia and/or neighbouring countries?

**Outcomes**

Throughout this topic, students work towards all outcomes, with particular focus on those listed below.

A student:

5.1 explains social, political and cultural developments and events and evaluates their impact on Australian life

5.2 assesses the impact of international events and relationships on Australia’s history

5.3 explains the changing rights and freedoms of Aboriginal peoples and other groups in Australia

5.4 sequences major historical events to show an understanding of continuity, change and causation

5.5 identifies, comprehends and evaluates historical sources

5.7 explains different contexts, perspectives and interpretations of the past.

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| **Working Historically**Historical skills to be integrated into this topic:* sequence key events in Australia’s military response to the threats of communism in Asia after WWII
* draw conclusions about the usefulness of sources for a specific historical inquiry
* identify perspectives of different groups
* interpret history within the context of the actions, values, attitudes and motives of people from the past
* recognise that historians may interpret events differently.

ICT skills appropriate for this topic may include:* select suitable software to present a research task using ICT.

**Suggested Site Studies include:*** a local or national war memorial
* a virtual site relevant to the period.
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| **Students learn about:** | **Students learn to:** |
| --- | --- |
| * Australia’s response to the threat of communism in Asia after WWII including:
* Korean War
* ANZUS Treaty
* SEATO Alliance
 | * sequence the key events in Australia’s response to the threat of communism in Asia after WWII
* explain the purpose of the treaties Australia contracted during this period
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| * the response to the threat of communism within Australia including:
* referendum to ban the Communist Party
* the Petrov Affair
 | * outline the key developments in Australia’s response to communism within Australia
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| * Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War
 | * explain the reasons for Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War
 |
| * differing views of Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War eg:
* supporters of the war
* conscientious objectors
* the moratorium movement
 | * explain the reasons why different groups within Australia supported or opposed Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War
 |
| * select appropriate sources that reflect different perspectives about Australia’s involvement in the Vietnam War
 |
| * the impact of the war on ONE of the following:
* Vietnam veterans and families
* Indo-Chinese refugees
* Australian culture
* Australia’s relations with Asia
 | * assess the impact of the war on the chosen study
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Topic 6 Changing Rights and Freedoms

Through their study of this topic, students will have the opportunity to gain an understanding of the experiences of different cultural and social groups in Australia during the 20th century and their struggle for recognition and civic rights.

**Inquiry question**

* How have the rights and freedoms of Aboriginal peoples and other groups in Australia changed during the post-war period?

**Outcomes**

Throughout this topic, students work towards all outcomes, with particular focus on those listed below.

A student:

5.1 explains social, political and cultural developments and events and evaluates their impact on Australian life

5.3 explains the changing rights and freedoms of Aboriginal peoples and other groups in Australia

5.8 locates, selects and organises relevant historical information from a number of sources, including ICT, to undertake historical inquiry

5.9 uses historical terms and concepts in appropriate contexts

5.10 selects and uses appropriate oral, written and other forms, including ICT, to communicate effectively about the past for different audiences.

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| **Working Historically**Historical skills to be integrated into this topic:* use historical terms and concepts appropriately
* explain continuity and change over time in the chosen topic
* interpret history within the context of the actions, values, attitudes and motives of individuals or groups
* identify and explain perspectives of different individuals and groups
* sequence key events / developments in each study.

ICT skills appropriate for this study may include:* locate, select and organise historical information from relevant websites for the purpose of an historical investigation
* select appropriate computer-based applications, eg Publisher, PowerPoint, to communicate the results of an historical inquiry.

**Suggested Site Studies include:*** a museum study
* an Aboriginal site (with permission)
* a local site of significance.
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| **Students learn about:** | **Students learn to:** |
| --- | --- |
| *When studying each part, ie Change over Time, Group and Events/Issues, Section A is compulsory, plus EITHER Section B OR Section C* |  |
| **Section A: Aboriginal Peoples** | **Section B: Migrants** | **Section C: Women** |  |
| **Change over Time** |  |  |  |
| * changing government policies towards Aboriginal peoples over time, including:
* protection
* assimilation
* integration
* self-determination
 | * the changing patterns of migration 1945–2000
 | * the achievements of the women’s movement in the post-WWII period
 | * account for continuity and/or change over time in the relevant study
 |
| **Group** |  |  |  |
| * the varying experiences of:
* the stolen generations
 | * the experiences of ONE of the following:
* a migrant group in post-WWII period
* ‘enemy’ aliens in WWI or WWII
 | * the experiences of ONE of the following:
* women during the Great Depression
* women’s liberationists in post-WWII period
 | * examine the experiences of the chosen group/s using a range of sources
 |
| **Events/Issues** |  |  |  |
| * the role of the following in the struggle of Aboriginal peoples for rights and freedoms:
* 1967 Referendum
* Land Rights and Native Title
 | * the role of ONE of the following in the history of post-WWII migration:
* Snowy Mountains Scheme
* 1970s boat people
* multiculturalism
 | * the role of ONE of the following in the changing rights and freedoms of Australian women:
* women’s suffrage
* women in parliament
* equal pay for women
 | * outline the important developments in a key event/issue relating to the chosen study
 |
| * explain the significance of the event/issue for the changing rights and freedoms of the chosen study
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