



Key information for the Aboriginal Studies Stage 6 (2010) syllabus

- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [Aboriginal Studies Stage 6 \(2010\) syllabus](#) requires students to study 7 sections over 240 hours of course time.
- Aboriginal Studies Stage 6 specific course requirements are outlined in the [Aboriginal Studies Stage 6 \(2010\) syllabus](#). In addition to the core topics, students will be required to undertake a Major Project on a topic of the student's own choice that is related to an aspect of the course, with a weighting of 40%.
- Schools are required to develop an assessment program for each Year 11 and Year 12 course. School-based assessment requirements are outlined at [Assessment and reporting in Aboriginal Studies Stage 6](#).

HSC examinations

- The [HSC Aboriginal Studies examination](#) consists of a written paper comprised of 3 hours of writing plus 5 minutes reading time. The examination is broken down into 3 sections worth 100 marks in total, Section I (55 marks), Section II (15 marks) and Section III (30 marks). Details on the HSC the Aboriginal Studies examination can be found at [Assessment and reporting in Aboriginal Studies Stage 6](#).
- Past HSC papers by NESA, are a useful resource to help students to become familiar with the examination format and structure. Past papers for Aboriginal Studies can be found at [HSC exam papers](#).
- HSC standards materials by NESA, provide a collection of resources of sample responses typical of work at the boundaries between HSC bands. The Aboriginal studies standards materials can be found on the NESA webpages [Aboriginal Studies Stage 6 HSC standards materials](#).

Support materials

The HSIE curriculum team provides resources to support NSW teachers in the implementation of the Aboriginal Studies Stage 6 (2010) syllabus and can be located on the [Planning, programming and assessing Aboriginal studies \(2010\)](#). Resources can also be found on the [HSIE SharePoint page](#).

NESA also has a range of [Aboriginal Studies Stage 6](#) support materials including: sample units, scope and sequences, assessment schedules and sample formal assessment tasks.

Professional learning

A range of 'on demand' [professional learning resources](#) to support the implementation of HSIE Stage 6 syllabus are available.

The HSIE curriculum team also offer a range of live online and face to face professional learning events throughout the year. Upcoming events are posted in the [professional learning channel of the HSIE Statewide Staffroom](#).

General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC), offering resources for students on exam preparation, course selection, and academic integrity.
- The [NESA HSC glossary](#) provides teachers with guidance on how to use key terms consistently, ensuring students understand their meanings and apply them appropriately across various subjects for effective exam preparation.
- The NESA [HSC assessment moderation](#) process ensures fairness by adjusting school assessment marks based on exam results, making them comparable across schools.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline HSC school-based assessment integrity, task development, marking, appeals, and record-keeping. They cover malpractice policies, illness/misadventure procedures, task notifications, ranking, and restrictions on reporting final marks, ensuring compliance with NESA's assessment standards.
- HSC monitoring advice, Section 1.6 outlines HSC record-keeping requirements, including teaching programs, assessment documentation, interventions and work samples. Visit [Stage 6 – monitoring implementation and support](#) for more information.
- School-based assessment for the HSC contributes to a student's final mark and is designed to evaluate students' understanding and skills based on syllabus outcomes.

Contact us

If you would like further information or support, please email hsie@det.nsw.edu.au or reach out to our team via the [HSIE Statewide Staffroom](#). Join the HSIE statewide staffroom if you are not already a member. You can also subscribe to our [HSIE Newsletter](#).

