Engaging Young Australians with Asia through the Victorian Essential Learning Standards

The Victorian studies of Asia program works with The Asia Education Foundation, http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au, government and non-government school sectors, teacher education institutions and professional and parent associations to promote and support the studies of Asia across the curriculum in all Victorian schools.

As we move further into the 21st century the importance of providing students with the knowledge, skills and understandings to enable them to live, learn and work in a global world is becoming increasingly important.

The National Statement for Engaging Young Australians with Asia in Australian Schools (http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/natstate-landing_page.html) provides educators with a valuable framework to use in planning the priorities and strategies for supporting schools in engaging students with Asia. The Statement identifies the broad knowledge, understanding, values and skills required to engage with

Studies of Asia wikisite

The Victorian Studies of Asia wikisite contains regularly updated information on all PD and opportunities in Victoria for Studies of Asia.

Studies of Asia and VELS

Studies of Asia is supported through the Victorian Essential Learning Standards Domains of English, Humanities (History, Geography and Economics), The Arts and Civics and Citizenship.

The table on the following page provides a summary outline of the VELS standa that support studies of Asia.
VELS Learning Foci which supports a studies of Asia program

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<th>Domain</th>
<th>Learning Focus</th>
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| Humanities - History  | - Understanding of cultural groups in Australia  
- Investigations of Asia Pacific Region  
- Investigate Ancient (China) and Medieval societies (Asia or Islamic society)  
- Consider Australia’s social, political and cultural structures and traditions  
- Investigate events leading to multiculturalism  
- Learn about global interconnections  
- Impact of key events in twentieth and twenty first century  
- Consider key leaders |
| Humanities - Geography| - Investigate characteristics of Asia and the Pacific Region  
- Investigate environmental issues such as forest use and global warming  
- Interaction of human activities with natural environment and study issues such as global warming, climate change, land degradation and desertification, and air and water pollution.  
- Impact of globalisation |
| Humanities - Economics| - Develop understandings of how Australian economy is managed in international context  
- Examine role of globalisation in influencing Australia's standard of living |
| The Arts              | - Discuss artists from different cultural contexts  
- Work as an ensemble to explore cultural diversity  
- Learn and present dance sequences from different cultures |
| English               | - Many opportunities exist to integrate studies of Asia perspectives across the English Domain. This can be achieved through selecting a range of culturally diverse texts. |
| Civics and Citizenship| - Consider experiences of diverse cultural groups  
- Consider values important in a multicultural society  
- Compare legal processes to those of other cultures  
- Research global issues  
- Investigate concept of human rights  
- Explore Australia’s multicultural society – consider refugee problem |
Resources to support development of curriculum programs

The Curriculum Corporation (http://www.curriculumpress.edu.au/pages/results?query=Asia) produces a range of exemplary learning and teaching resources to support studies of Asia programs.

The Asia Scope and Sequence for English draws on texts of Asia and Australia. These include imaginative texts, information texts and argument texts. This resource provides teachers with information on exemplary resources available across the years of schooling. Primary and Secondary Units of work to support ASSE for have been published.

The Asia Scope and Sequence for Studies of Society and Environment (Humanities)
The ASSSSE has been developed to align with learning outcomes described in the National Statement for Engaging Young Australians with Asia in Australian Schools. This resource provides teachers with information on exemplary resources available across the years of schooling. Primary and Secondary Units of work to support the Scope and Sequence document have been published.

Victorian Essential Learning Standards Domain webpages
Curriculum that is offered to students from Prep to Year 10 is accompanied by a range of teaching and learning aids to ensure teachers and students maximise the opportunity for education. Where appropriate, studies of Asia resources will be linked to the appropriate Domain page.


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