



## HUMAN SOCIETY AND ITS ENVIRONMENT (HSIE) SOCIETY AND CULTURE

The aim of Society and Culture is to develop a student's knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes essential to achieving social and cultural literacy by examining the interactions between persons, societies, cultures and environments across time. At Masada we offer Society and Culture as a Preliminary course in Year 11 and an HSC course in Year 12.

### Our Mission

The course aims to develop the knowledge and skills of a socially and culturally literate person by

- becoming self aware, with a sense of personal, social and cultural identity
- showing concern for the welfare, rights and dignity of all people
- understanding continuity and change and the implications for our future
- communicating effectively
- showing critical discernment regarding the media
- researching efficiently and ethically
- empathising with people of different societies and cultures
- being capable of informed decision making and of taking action on social issues
- looking beyond the notion of 'us' and 'them'

In Year 12, students are required to complete a major piece of social research on a topic of their choice, a Personal Interest Project (PIP). This major work accounts for 40% of their HSC assessment. This is enormously beneficial in future study, in work, and in understanding the human actions, attitudes and relationships that emerge during the research process. Past students of Masada College have been very successful in this research task, with many obtaining interviews with significant members of the community (including politicians, community and religious leaders).

### Our Results

- In **2016**, 100% of our students achieved a Band 5 (compared with 35% in the state.)
- In **2015**, 33% of our students achieved a Band 6 and 83% achieved in the top 2 Bands (compared with 12% and 46% in the State respectively)
- In **2014**, 46% of our students achieved a Band 6, 100% achieved in the top 2 Bands (compared with 13% and 45% in the State respectively)
- In **2013**, 60% of our students achieved a Band 6, 100% achieved in the top 2 Bands (compared with 15% and 47% in the State respectively)
- In **2012**, 55% of our students achieved a Band 6, 100% achieved in the top 2 Bands
- In **2011**, 40% of our students achieved a Band 6, 90% achieved in the top 2 Bands

### Support

Students are provided with excellent support for both their Personal Interest Projects and course learning. All Masada students in Year 11 and 12 can make an appointment with their teacher to discuss progress and gain assistance with their major work.

### Extra Curricular Activities

- Study days in Sydney for HSC and special events.

### Masada College

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