**Our Mission**

At Masada students who study Ancient History as a Preliminary course in Year 11 and the HSC in Year 12, develop an understanding of the possibilities and limitations of comparing past to present and present to past by exposing them to a variety of perspectives on key events and issues. Students are encouraged to debate the historiography and events of various historical periods, societies and key personalities.

**Our Results**

Our Higher School Certificate results have been outstanding Ancient History in the last few years.

- **In 2010** 40% of our students were in the top band compared to the state average of 11%
- **In 2009** 100% of our students were in the top 2 bands compared to the state average of 36%
- **In 2007** 100% of our students gained Band 6 compared to the state average of 11%
- **In 2006** 88% of our students were in the top 2 bands compared to the state average of 40%

Masada students enjoy the opportunity to work in small class sizes in Ancient History which enables them to develop critical writing, analytical and evaluation skills. The number of students studying Ancient History in the state has increased significantly in the last few years. Masada students love to discuss historical issues and events from a variety of perspectives which is reflected in our results.

**Extra Curricular Activities and Special Events**

Masada students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities outside the classroom including:

- Museum visits
- HSC study days and seminars at several universities

History competitions:

- NSW HTA History Challenge
- National History Challenge

**Support**

Excellent support is provided for students who experience difficulty with any aspect of the Ancient History. Tutorials are arranged by appointment with teachers to discuss progress and students are encouraged to email their work to receive feedback during holiday periods.

Students are actively encouraged to study and exchange summary notes and written responses.
Modern History Department

Our Mission

Students who study Modern History at Masada develop knowledge and skills that enable them to:

- study change and continuity over time
- undertake the process of historical inquiry
- be an informed citizen in a contemporary society
- appreciate the forces that have shaped the modern world from the eighteenth century
- acquire historical knowledge and understanding to facilitate critical analysis

Our Results

Our HSC results have been strong in Modern History. In 2010 61% of students scored on the top 2 bands compared with the state average of 41%. In both 2008 and 2009, 72% of our students scored in the top 2 Bands compared with the state average of 41%.

Masada students love to discuss various issues and in our small classes, many students have a chance to develop their historical and analytical ability.

Extra Curricular Activities and Special Events

Students have the opportunity to attend a Study Day at the University of Sydney, conducted by the History Teachers Association. 2 in-house study days are held at the College by professionals in their fields.

Masada students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities outside the classroom including:

- Museum visits
- HSC study days and seminars at several universities
- Visiting guest speakers

History competitions:

- NSW HTA History Challenge
- Australian Historical Investigation Competition
- National History Challenge

Support

Students who have difficulties in Modern History are provided with excellent support. All Masada students in Years 11 and 12 have a weekly tutorial lesson to discuss progress if needed. In the holiday periods students are also able to email their work for feedback.

Support

This course attracted a small but dedicated group of students who enjoy the analysis of historical perspectives and approaches to history and is available in Year 12. Their major topic focus in the course at Masada is John F. Kennedy. Changing interpretations and perspectives regarding the construction of History has also been a focus. They have the opportunity to study a topic of their own choice by way of a major work. In 2010 66% of students scored on the top 2 bands.