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 in Ancient History in the last few years.

- In 2011 60% of our students in the top 2 bands compared to the state average of 37%
- 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%

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.

The use of modern technology enhances their experience with interest notes and audio-visual resources made available after school hours. Extension reading and live camera feeds adds a new perspective to the study of Ancient History.

Extra Curricular Activities and Special Events

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

- Museum visits and the Sydney ‘Big Dig’ site
- HSC study days and seminars at several universities

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 2011 we had 100% of our students in the top 2 Bands with 40% in Band 6.

In 2012 we had 72% of our students in the top 2 Bands.

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. Two 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

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.

History Extension

This course attracts 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 2011 100% of our students scored in the top Band.

In 2012 100% of our students scored in the top 2 Bands.
Our Mission

We believe a knowledge of ancient civilisations, the Middle Ages, and the history of Australia in the 20th Century is an essential ingredient in producing an informed citizen of Australia and the world. At Masada we cover the compulsory components of the syllabus and also a history of the Jewish people.

The framework provides a set of broad learning outcomes that summarise the knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes essential for all students to succeed in and beyond their schooling. Students that study History at Masada develop knowledge and skills that enable them to:

- Understand, develop and communicate ideas and information.
- Understand and appreciate the physical, biological and technological world.
- Understand and apply a variety of analytical and creative techniques to solve problems.
- Understand, interpret and apply concepts related to patterns, structures and relationships.
- Develop a system of personal values.

World History includes the study of Ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome and China. We study the Medieval World and the colonization of Spanish America and Australia.

Australian history focuses from the Federation of our nation and its region to the challenges of the Great Depression and two World Wars. We then examine how our modern nation has been forged by the influx of migrants and ideas from overseas.

Extra Curricular Activities and Special Events

- Ancient Day incursion (Year 7) and Medieval Day incursion (Year 8) where students are given hands-on experience of weapons and shields from these eras and an explanation of their use.
- ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day ceremonies are narrated and lead by Year 9 students.
- Special History Junior Assemblies where students present work completed in class or present extra information on subjects that are topical.
- Year 9 students attend a ceremony that celebrates the life and achievements of General Monash.