

# HISTORY EXTENSION

What it's all about!

# Who can do this course?

- A **1 unit course** offered for Ancient and Modern students
- **Prerequisite:** one year 11 history course.
- **Required:** you must be studying ancient and/or modern in year 12.



# What is it all about?

- This course is completely different to any history you have studied before.
- This course focuses on **historiography**, that is:

The study of how and why history has been recorded

- It is history from a different perspective – the historians.
- How have historians written history and why have they bothered?



# Some themes and issues raised

## ➤ What is 'history'?

➤ The **philosophy** of 'history'

➤ Can the **truth** be achieved in the search of history?

➤ Is our understanding of history merely an '**interpretation**'?

➤ Are there any facts left in history or is it '**faction**'?



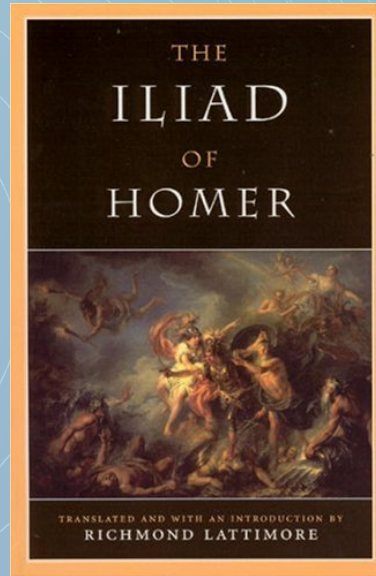


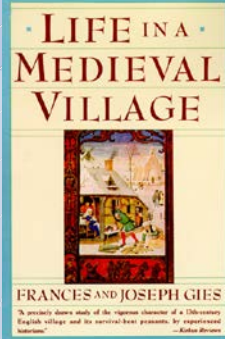
## ➤ Who are the historians? What are their AIMS in writing history?

- From ancient through medieval to modern historians...
- Eg Herodotus to Bede, Gibbon to Von Ranke, Marx to Derrida
- Who have been the historians?
- What has been their purpose in writing history?

# Themes and Issues

- How and why has history changed over time?
  - Oral stories and myths
  - Written Narratives
  - Political and Religious Propaganda
  - History as a science
  - “Total History”
  - Revisionist and Post Modernist History





# Themes and Issues

➤ The rise of 'other' histories that have traditionally been 'ignored' in favour of 'Big History' and 'Great Man History'



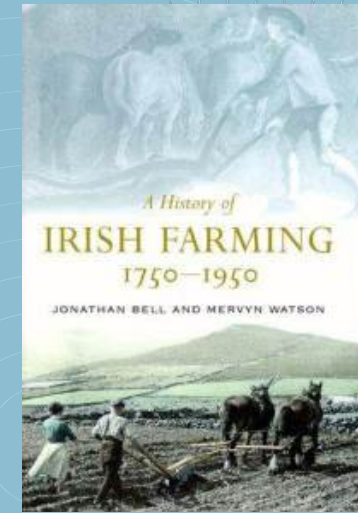
**MAORI**

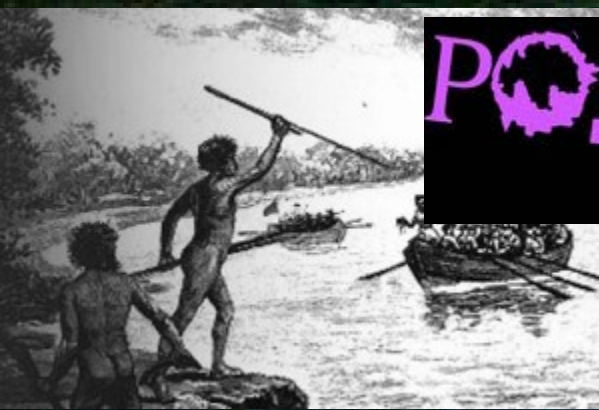


**IN THE GREAT WAR**

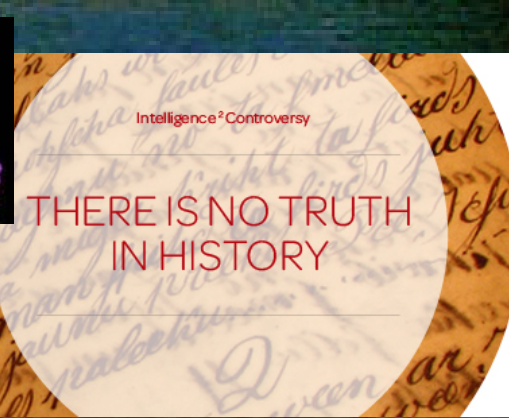
BRUCE CUMANS

- History of **women**
- History of the **colonised / indigenous** perspectives
- History of **ordinary peoples** eg peasants
- **Social** histories






# Postmodernism



MAYBE  
THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE  
^

**POSTMODERN**

It's Our Word. Don't Use It. Don't Try to Define It.  
Above All, Don't Label Us With It.  
Even If We Apply It to Ourselves.

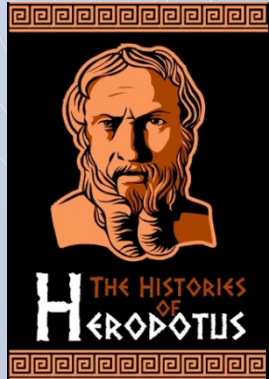
EMERGENT-SEE  
PO-MOTIVATORS



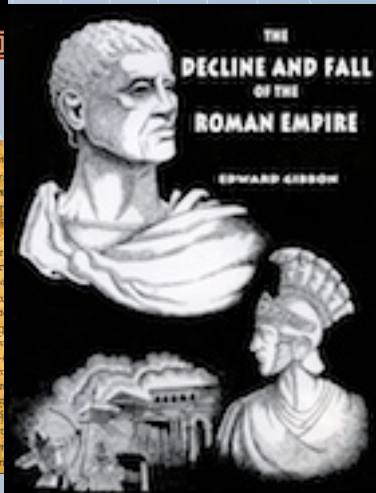
# Themes and Issues

History and the media... changing communications

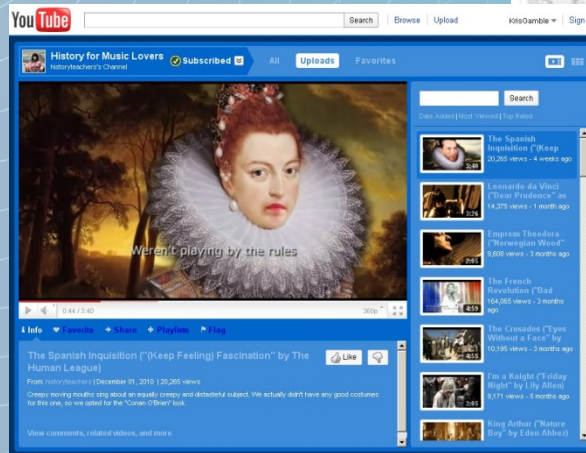
## NEWSPAPERS



## BOOKS



## MAGAZINES



## YOU TUBE / INTERNET



## TELEVISION



## INTERNET



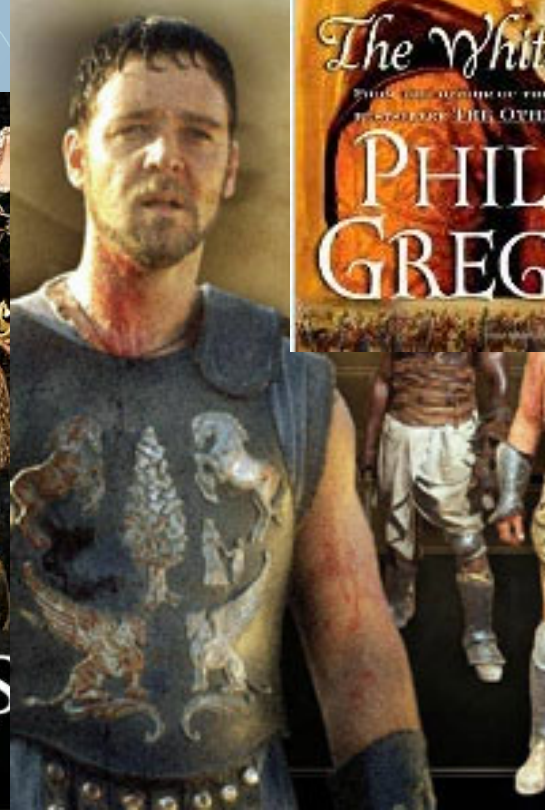
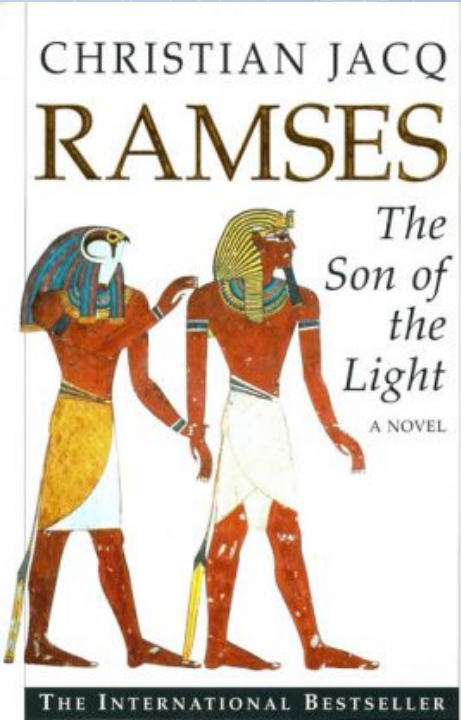
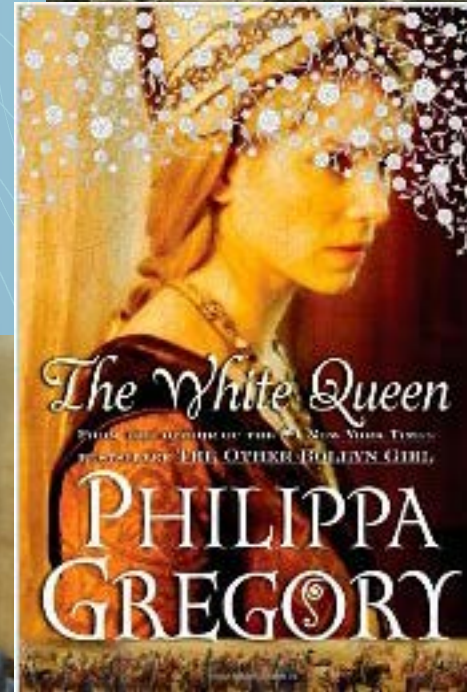
## FILM



hymoviestore

# Themes and Issues

- Do TV/Film count as History?? What about historical fiction?
- What is the value of such 'history'??



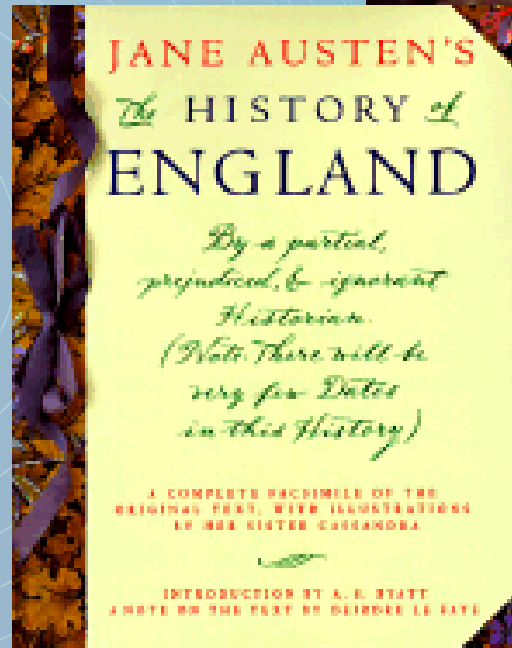
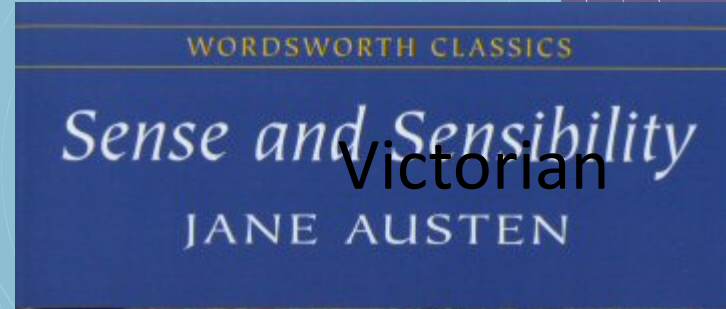
# Jane Austen as History???

➤ She provides insight into England's:

- Values
- Fashion
- Manners, etiquette
- Family unit
- Social-classes

➤ This is a new approach to history

➤ So the question: what counts as *history*?



# Course Outline



## ➤ Topic 1 What is History?

- Historiography – where we study the history of how history has been created, constructed and recorded. We look at the historians throughout history, how and why they have made history.

## ➤ Topic 2 Case Study

- We examine one person or issue, such as JFK, Queen Elizabeth I or The Crusades, and look at how the historians have written about it over time. We pay attention to conflicting histories, historical debates and why there are differing 'histories' of the one issue/person.

## ➤ Topic 3 Major Project

- Students choose a topic/issue of interest to them (ancient, medieval, modern) to examine the historiographical debates and history of it.
- Your approach to this is modeled in the class case study

# Example Case Studies

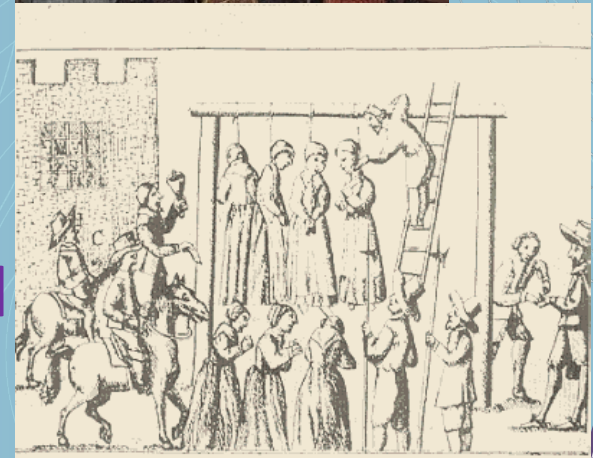
➤ Some case studies that schools study include:

- Presidency of JFK
- Appeasement
- Elizabeth I
- The Crusades
- Historicity of Jesus
- The History Wars:
  - Australia – invaded or settled?*
- Napoleon – reformer or tyrant?



# Past Project Topics

- Revising the Holocaust
- Bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima – Was there an alternative?
- King Arthur in History and Legend
- Marie Antoinette: Saint or Sinner
- Tiananmen Square
- The Killing Fields of Cambodia
- National Museum of Australia and the History Wars
- Salem Witch Trials





↘ Major Project 40

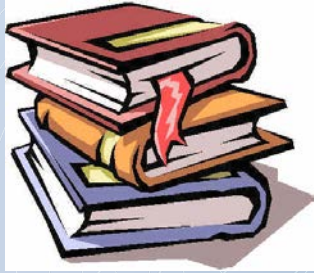
↘ Trial HSC 10

2 Hours: 2 Essays

Total Assessment 50

(1 unit course)

The HSC exam has a value of 50 marks, 25 marks for each essay. This total mark is used to moderate your in school mark.



# Skills developed

- **Analytical thinking** / critical thinking
- **Written communication** and expression
- **Oral communication**, debating, discussion
- **Media discernment** and critique
- **Research** skills
- **Self motivation** and independent research





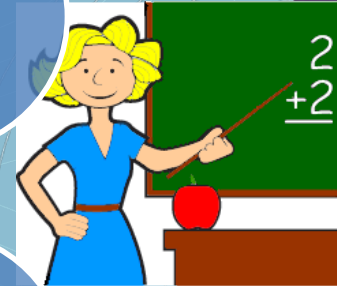
# Pathways to...

Journalism



Media and Communications

Teaching



History and Archaeology



Philosophy

Business

Professions



Writing

Museums and Historic Sites



Librarians



Law

Business

# You should consider it if:

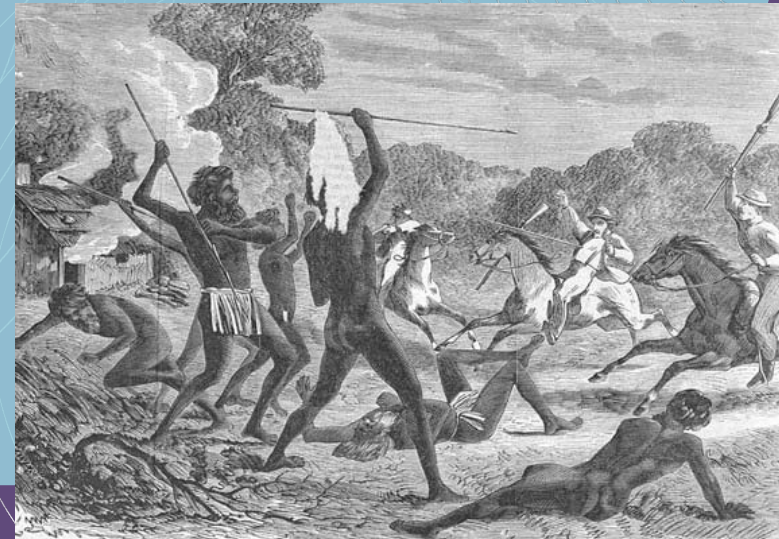
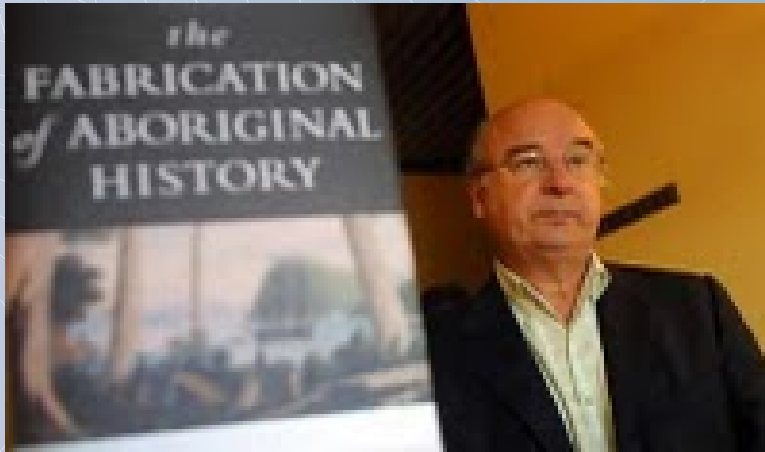
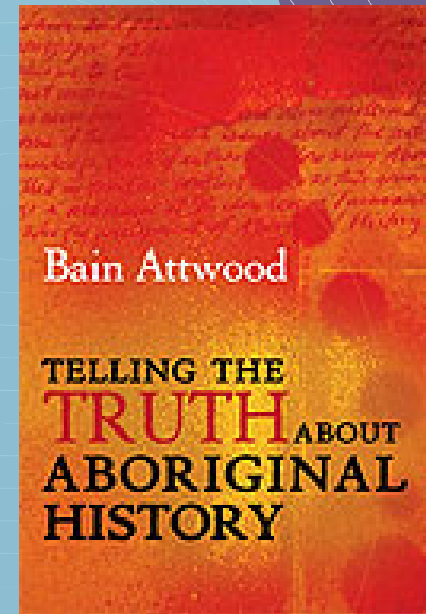
- You have a **passion and enthusiasm** for any history
- You are **achieving well in history**
- You're interested in **philosophy** and ideas
- You're **planning to do history** at university (or law, journalism, arts etc)
- You'd like to improve your understanding of the **ideas and concepts**, skills and practice of ancient and/or modern history

# History Extension is...

- *Challenging*
- *Interesting*
- *Inquisitive*
- *Philosophical*
- *Argumentative!*

# Some final thoughts

- Windshuttle vs Reynolds
  - Sparked the *History Wars* in Australia
  - Polarised debate on Australian History
  - Was Australia settled or invaded?



# Some final thoughts

- David Irving – *Holocaust Denial*
  - Revises traditional history of the holocaust and Nazi Germany
  - Denies the Holocaust Happened!!

