

Religions

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New Sections

Last term we added an interesting array of eight new topics and many new sections to existing topics. Summaries of the topics and updates are listed below. Previous newsletters can be found at www.librarywebs.com/news.htm.

We will be at the SLAQ Conference at All Hallows' School, Brisbane in September. If you are attending please drop by.

All the best for another successful term.

New Topics

Religions

Creation stories

Each culture has its own stories about how the Earth and humankind came to exist, and even now our scientists are still hotly debating current theories about our origins. The stories presented here, handed down from our earliest ancestors, offer a fascinating insight into the beliefs which have shaped the lives of people all over the world for generations. Some exhibit similarities, while others are quite unique. The cultures highlighted include African, Australian Aboriginal, Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Hebrew, Indian, Japanese, Maori, Meso- and North American, Norse, and Pacific Islander. The For Teachers section contains a long list of classroom resources including quizzes, handouts, animations and lesson plans.

Social Sciences

USA: Neo-Conservative politics

The US presidential elections have almost as much media coverage as our own Australian political situation, so it is prudent for our senior students to be aware of the influences at play in American politics. This topic examines the background and contemporary position of neo-conservatism in the USA before going on to look at the role of the Christian Right in domestic and foreign policy. The next sections look at the impact of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the development of the Bush Doctrine, and the role of the neo-conservatives in the prosecution of the Iraq War. The last sections look at religious fundamentalism generally, as well as the Christian Right's attitude towards Islam and Islam's role in terrorism. Teachers can find ideas for lesson plans at the end.



Global environmental issues

As climate change looms as a major issue for every country in the world, we are confronted with the interconnectivity of all our lives and the

realisation that individual lifestyle choices can have global impacts. Several of the issues presented in this topic contribute to global warming, but others are of great concern as well. Currently the list includes air pollution, deforestation, drift netting, climate change, global dimming, nuclear waste, oil spills, ozone depletion, population growth, sustainable development, toxic waste and the water crisis. A selection of lesson plans dealing with these issues is available in the last section.

Life Sciences

Human evolution

The theories outlined here are hotly debated and contested by the various scientists who champion them. The introductory sections deal with the topic in a comprehensive way, then look at the fossil evidence and the scientists who have used this evidence to support the theories they have developed. After that the sections focus on the specific theories and models: natural selection, the Out of Africa theory, the multiregional theory, the aquatic ape model and the intelligent design model. There are two sections for teachers at the end, one containing classroom materials on human evolution and the other on evolution more generally.

Mens' Health

The health and wellbeing of men is at last being given some special attention on a national scale and the information contained in this topic has relevance to everyone regardless of gender. The early sections cover general aspects like the status of men's health, the establishment of a national health policy

in Australia, statistics comparing and contrasting men's and women's health, the health care conditions for men in rural areas and the changing attitudes of men towards their own health care. The second half of the topic deals with specific illnesses, conditions and threats to men's health, e.g. cardiovascular diseases, mental health, obesity, OHS, sexual health generally and cancer of the prostate and testis in particular. Interactive quizzes and lesson plans are found in the teachers' section at the end.



Arts, Music and Sports

Australian Art: Contemporary

The introductory section contains sites which cover the Australian contemporary art scene generally and give biographical details about a wide variety of Australian artists. Several artists have been selected for special attention and currently include Madonna Staunton, Rod Moss, George Gittoes, Bruce Reynolds, Rosslind Piggott, and Fiona Foley. Resources for classroom use are found in the last section as usual.

Literature

Classical Greek Literature

Designed for Classics students, this topic will be useful for Ancient History students too. It begins with a comprehensive section covering authors and literary elements. The authors who have complete sections to themselves are Homer, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Herodotus, Euripides,

Thucydides and Aristophanes. The section for teachers includes lesson plans, study guides, assessment items and worksheets.

British Poets: 20th-21st Century

This topic includes several of the leading lights of the British literary scene during the last century, as well as some younger poets who are now offering their insights into contemporary life and society. Several of these poets have been Poets Laureate or are being considered for that illustrious position in the future. The poets listed are John Betjeman, Wystan Hugh Auden, Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin, Ted Hughes, Gillian Clarke, Seamus Heaney, Roger McGough, Carol Ann Duffy and Simon Armitage. The For Teachers section has a lengthy list of worksheets, lesson plans and assessment items dealing with individual poems and poets.

Modern World History

Hitler's Germany

The social conditions of Germany during the Third Reich and the ways in which the German population reacted to Hitler's rule provide the focus of this topic. It begins with a section on Adolf Hitler with a range of biographies and sites tracing his rise to power. Following this are sections showing how the Nazis dealt with opposition, how they used propaganda, education and youth movements to persuade and subdue the people, and how they dealt with opposition and persecuted those who threatened their political ideologies. The status of women in Nazi Germany is given special attention. The teachers' section contains a variety of lesson plans and exercises.

NEW SECTIONS

Religions

New Testament: Biography

Elizabeth and Zacharias
Martha and Mary
Lydia
Aquila and Priscilla

Australian Society

Australia: Industrial Relations

Trade Unions in Australia: History
Trade Unions in Australia:
21st Century

Rudd Government: Abolition of Work Choices
Fair Work Australia

Chemistry and Earth Sciences

Earthquakes

Earthquakes, China, 2008

Weather and Climate

Burma: Cyclone Nargis,

New materials

Synthetic fibre: Dyneema

Arts, Music and Sports

Artists: 20th-21st Century

Kawara, On b.1932
Hockney, David b. 1937
Jernigan, Candy 1952-1991
Alÿs, Francis b.1959
Lertchaiprasert, Kamin b.1964

Cartoon Art

Shakespeare in comic form

Literature

Carey, Peter

Carey, Peter: His Illegal Self (2008)

Ancient and Medieval History

Mesopotamia: Babylonia

Babylonia: For Teachers

Modern World History

American Civil Rights Movement

March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, 1963
Montgomery Bus Boycott 1955-1956
Lunch Counter Sit-Ins, 1960

South Africa: History

Sharpeville Massacre, 1960
Soweto Massacre, 1976

Australian History

Australia: 1970s

Australia: 1970s: Transport
Australia: 1970s: Fashion influences

Australia: 2000s

Australia: 2008: Withdrawal of combat troops from Iraq
Australia: 2008: 2020 Summit
Australia: 2008: Garnaut Climate Change Review
Australia: 2008: World Youth Day

