



# EDST8211

## Professional Practice 2: Teaching Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) in the Primary School

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

*Macquarie School of Education*

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#### Disclaimer

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Gavin Hazel

[gavin.hazel@mq.edu.au](mailto:gavin.hazel@mq.edu.au)

Contact via Email

By arrangement

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

EDST8206 or EDST8509 or EDST8217 or EDST8301

Corequisites

EDST8204 and (EDST8207 or EDST8507)

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit develops teacher education students' pedagogical content knowledge and skills of the NSW Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) Key Learning Area, with the focus on teaching about people and places in the History and Geography syllabuses.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

**ULO1:** Explain key features of the disciplines of Human Society and Its Environment, including discipline-specific knowledge, pedagogies, skills, tools, and concepts.

**ULO2:** Implement different types of evidence-based learning experiences using historical artifacts and resources for local research and historical inquiry.

**ULO3:** Plan and evaluate learning experiences, technology use, and assessment to support effective learning for diverse learners.

**ULO4:** Apply research to explain how primary school students develop geographical and historical understanding.

**ULO5:** Select, apply, and evaluate various appropriate discipline-specific resources to support the teaching of history and geography.

**ULO6:** Analyse and apply sequencing of content and pedagogical knowledge to design effective learning experiences and meet curriculum and assessment requirements.

## General Assessment Information

### General Submission Information

All written assessments must be submitted electronically. Please format assessments using 12-point font and 1.5 spacing. Submissions must meet the required file type and formatting specifications outlined in the assessment guidelines. If you are unsure about the file format or have technical difficulties, it is your responsibility to seek assistance before the submission deadline. Students should be careful to check that they submit the correct file for an assessment as no re-submissions will be accepted after the due date and time, including instances where students upload an incorrect file. It is not the responsibility of unit staff to contact students who have failed to submit assessments. If you have any missing items of assessment, it is your responsibility to contact the unit convenor.

Turnitin plagiarism detection software is used to check all written assessments. It is the responsibility of all students to ensure that their submitted work is in a format compatible with Turnitin software for plagiarism checking. Students can use Turnitin's Originality Report as a learning tool to improve their academic writing if this option is made available in the unit.

Word limits are strictly applied, with + or – 10% applicable. Work above the word limit will not be marked.

### Academic Integrity

Students should be aware of and apply the University policy on academic integrity (see: <https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=3>).

### Artificial Intelligence

<https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/assessments/ai-and-assessment>

<https://policies.mq.edu.au/document/view.php?id=394>

### Special Consideration / Late Penalties

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day to late submissions, up until the 7th calendar day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the

assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue.

*Important to note:*

Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs) will be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special consideration application.

Students should not request an informal arrangement from their tutor, lecturer or Unit Convenor (or equivalent).

Where an application for Special Consideration is approved and the outcome is an extension to the due date of a task, submissions that are received after the new due date will be subject to late penalties that are calculated from the new due date. This only applies where the outcome is an extension to the due date – see the [Special Consideration Policy](#) for a schedule of all possible outcomes.

A Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

Applications must be made via [Service Connect](#).

## University Policy on Grading

Assignments will be awarded grades ranging from HD to F according to guidelines set out in the [University's Grading System](#) and [University Assessment Policy](#).

To attain a pass or higher grade in Professional Experience a student must obtain a satisfactory in both the Professional Experience component and a pass or higher grade in the academic component. For Professional Experience units the Professional Experience Evaluation Report is marked as Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. The Macquarie Teaching Performance Assessment (MQTPA - in final WIL/PEX units) is marked as Not met, Met or Exceeds.

## Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed because they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [Service Connect](#).

## Withdrawing from this unit

If you are considering withdrawing from this unit, please seek academic advice via [Service Connect](#) before doing so as this unit may be a co-requisite or prerequisite for units in the following

sessions and may impact your course progression.

## Assessment Tasks

| Name                                                                              | Weighting | Hurdle | Due        | Groupwork/Individual | Short Extension | AI Approach |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------|------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <a href="#">Interdisciplinary Inquiry-Based Learning in History and Geography</a> | 50%       | No     | 26/08/2026 | Individual           | No              | Observed    |
| <a href="#">Sustainability Research Project</a>                                   | 50%       | No     | 02/11/2026 | Individual           | Yes             | Open        |
| <a href="#">Professional Experience Report</a>                                    | 0%        | Yes    | 16/10/2026 | Individual           | No              | Observed    |

### Interdisciplinary Inquiry-Based Learning in History and Geography

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Presentation task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **26/08/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension <sup>3</sup>: No

AI Approach: Observed

This assessment task requires groups to develop and deliver a concise presentation, not exceeding 15 minutes, focusing on the integration of History and Geography via inquiry-based learning activities conducted outside the traditional classroom environment.

The presentation should articulate the interconnectedness of historical and geographical concepts and propose practical, stage-appropriate inquiry-based activities designed for an outdoor or alternative learning environment.

Additionally, groups must rationalize their choice of location for these activities, emphasizing its educational value and relevance to the subjects.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key features of the disciplines of Human Society and Its Environment, including discipline-specific knowledge, pedagogies, skills, tools, and concepts.
- Implement different types of evidence-based learning experiences using historical artifacts and resources for local research and historical inquiry.
- Plan and evaluate learning experiences, technology use, and assessment to support effective learning for diverse learners.

- Apply research to explain how primary school students develop geographical and historical understanding.
- Select, apply, and evaluate various appropriate discipline-specific resources to support the teaching of history and geography.

## Sustainability Research Project

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 20 hours

Due: **02/11/2026**

Weighting: **50%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension <sup>3</sup>: Yes

AI Approach: Open

This assignment challenges students to design a comprehensive research task for primary students centred on sustainability, incorporating both historical and geographical perspectives.

The project should engage primary students in an inquiry-based learning process, encouraging them to explore the complexities of sustainability through a multidisciplinary lens.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key features of the disciplines of Human Society and Its Environment, including discipline-specific knowledge, pedagogies, skills, tools, and concepts.
- Implement different types of evidence-based learning experiences using historical artifacts and resources for local research and historical inquiry.
- Apply research to explain how primary school students develop geographical and historical understanding.
- Select, apply, and evaluate various appropriate discipline-specific resources to support the teaching of history and geography.

## Professional Experience Report

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Professional task

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 0 hours

Due: **16/10/2026**

Weighting: **0%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension <sup>3</sup>: No

AI Approach: Observed

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

A report completed by the supervising teacher about the performance and capabilities

demonstrated during professional experience

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Analyse and apply sequencing of content and pedagogical knowledge to design effective learning experiences and meet curriculum and assessment requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- [Academic Success](#) for academic skills support.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation.

<sup>3</sup> An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

## Delivery and Resources

This unit has a full web presence through iLearn. Information for students about access to the online component of this unit is available at <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/index.php>. You will need to enter your student username and password.

Please do NOT contact the Unit Convenor regarding iLearn technical help. Assistance is available from IT Helpdesk: via email [onehelp@mq.edu.au](mailto:onehelp@mq.edu.au) or Ph: 9850 4357 or 1800 67 4357. On Campus: Ground floor at 18 Wally's Walk.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](#) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about

throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.mq.edu.au) (<https://policies.mq.edu.au>) and use the [search tool](#).

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

## Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [connect.mq.edu.au](https://connect.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

## School of Education Procedures

In addition, the following policies and procedures for the Macquarie School of Education apply to this unit.

### Academic Progression Policy

This unit is a part of a professional course listed on Schedules 2 and 3 of the [Academic Progression Policy](#). This course has additional requirements that are applicable for the full duration of the course, including course-specific Inherent Requirements, Fitness to Practice requirements and other compulsory course requirements. It also has rigorous academic progression standards. Inability to meet these requirements may result in a withdrawal of offer of admission and/or permanent exclusion from the course in accordance with the General Coursework Rules.

### Fitness to practice in a Professional Experience unit

Macquarie University operates under a 'Fitness to Practice' model as specified in the University's Academic Progression Policy. For this unit, this means that, when undertaking a placement, a student is declaring that they are able to demonstrate professional competence, acceptable professional behaviour, freedom from impairment, and compliance with program specific requirements needed for a student to practice properly and safely throughout their Practical, Clinical or Professional program or unit. It is the responsibility of the student

to determine whether they are fit to undertake a placement. Therefore, if a student is feeling unfit to undertake a placement, they should not do so. For more information see the [Academic Progression Policy](#).

## Communication

It is the student's responsibility to check all electronic communication on a weekly basis. Communication may occur via:

Official MQ Student Email Address

The Dialogue function on iLearn

Other iLearn communication functions

## Attendance and Participation

See the University timetable for information about when classes begin in this unit. [Creating your timetable - Enrolling | Macquarie University, Sydney \(mq.edu.au\)](#). Students are required to attend the tutorial in which they are enrolled. Any changes to tutorial enrolments must be completed officially through e-Student. Please do not contact the unit convenor to request a change.

There is an attendance requirement in this unit. Initial Teacher Education (ITE) degrees must ensure that teacher education students meet unit learning outcomes, course learning outcomes and the Graduate level of the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. Since units are within an accredited ITE degree, Macquarie School of Education is required to demonstrate these outcomes and standards have been taught, practised and assessed. To meet 'taught, practiced and assessed' accreditation requirements, ITE units have mandatory attendance, with an expectation of at least 80% attendance at tutorials. Please see your unit iLearn site for details of how to meet attendance requirements in this unit.

## Infrequent Attendance Students

Information about the dates of the on-campus sessions can be found in the university timetable. [Creating your timetable - Enrolling | Macquarie University, Sydney \(mq.edu.au\)](#)

The on-campus sessions are essential to student engagement and learning and attendance is expected.

Prior to the on-campus sessions, students should have read the prescribed readings and listened to the lectures, summarise the main points, and make notes of the key terms and definitions. Prepare any discussion questions of your own that you wish to share.

Please make effective use of the online component of the unit and access iLearn regularly. Keep up to date with listening to the lectures on a weekly basis.

Further details and any updates about times and locations will be posted on iLearn as an Announcement during first half of the semester.

### **Professional Experience Unit Expectations**

- Important Professional Experience information can be found on Education Commons – see iLearn for details of how to self-enrol in Education Commons
- Students must be able to present evidence of completion of mandatory requirements prior to session census date (or as otherwise advised) to receive a placement for Professional Experience. Please check your email from the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Office. Requirements are outlined here: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/professional-learning/pl-resources/pre-service-teacher-resources/induction-for-pre-service-teachers/mandatory-pre-requisites-for-pre-service-teachers-participating->
- Students must have submitted written assessment tasks and/or completed associated unit requirements scheduled prior to the commencement of the block.
- Students who are completing a unit offered by another Department are expected to inform and negotiate with that unit convenor about their professional experience block dates and discuss how that unit's requirements can be met. For some situations it may mean that a student is enrolled externally for that unit so that attendance for tutorials for that unit is not impacted.
- Feedback from Placement Support Team and/or Tertiary Supervisors and/or Supervising Teachers is of a general nature. It is incumbent on the student to check the requirements of any assessments or Professional Experience written tasks prior to submission.
- Students may not be able to commence their placement until all alleged academic honesty breaches have been investigated and resolved.
- The timing of placements can vary. For placements early in the session, fail grades may be approved by the university prior to the end of session for students who do not meet the placement expectations of the unit.
- If a student is identified as being In Need of Additional Support (INAS) for Professional Practice and/or Professional Experience written tasks, the [Macquarie School of Education's 'Additional Support' procedure](#) will be activated.

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

### Academic Success

[Academic Success](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

## Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

## Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2026.04 of the [Handbook](#)